

AN
E S S A Y

ON THE

Antient and Modern STATE

O F

IRELAND, K

WITH THE

Various *important Advantages* thereunto derived,
under the auspicious Reign of His most sacred
Majesty, King G E O R G E the Second.

*Fuimus;
Defuimus;
Renascimur.*

D U B L I N :

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and *Bible* in *Cook-street*, M D C C L I X.

[Price a *British* Shilling.]

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ON THE

Ancient and Modern State

OF

IRELAND,



By the Hon. the Secretary of the Board of Ordnance and Fortification, in pursuance of an Order of Council, bearing date the 10th of June 1793.

Printed by J. G. K. R. in the Strand, 1793.

D. V. B. I. W.

Printed for and sold by P. L. and J. W. in the Strand, 1793.

~~I listened with great indignation and~~

determined continuing my Muse to-

wards giving such attentive, uninter-

ed. Yours, a more adequate idea of

MATTHEW Mc-NAMARA,

gent happy Establishment.

OF LIMERICK, Esq;

lead them by better Authority to clear-

of knowledge. In the mean time I provide

my Obligations to whom, as they have

of desiring

ly You have the Character and

Esteem of our Native Country at

Heart, I take Leave to offer to Your Pe-

rusal, and commend to Your favourable

Acceptance, the following Sheets.

What gave them Rise, was my hap-

pening some Time since, to have fallen

into Company with two or three spright-

ly young Gentlemen, then just returned

from their Continental Rambles,—who

—although little burthened with the Re-

ligion, Laws, Learning, Policy, Customs,

Habits, Manners, or Languages of any,

or the several Countries they had scam-

pered thro', affected, nevertheless, an high

Contempt for this,—their Native.

DEDICATION.

I listened with silent Indignation, and determined contributing my Mite towards giving such unattentive, uninformed Youths, a more adequate Idea of this Kingdom, under its ancient and present happy Establishment.

The common Accidents of Time must lead them by better Authority to clearer Knowledge: In the mean Time, I profess my Obligations to them, as they have given me this Opportunity of declaring my Regards to my Country in general, and the particular Attachments that ever bind me, in the strictest Sense of Fidelity and Esteem, to a Friend so worthy as You have been to, Sir,

Your very obliged, and

Most obedient Servant.

AN
ESSAY
ON THE
Antient and Modern STATE
OF
IRELAND.

IN a Nation, where almost every Gentleman is better acquainted and more conversant with the Nature and Circumstances of other Countries than those of his own; the Publication of such Hints, as may somewhat contribute to remove so odd an Inattention, and induce those far better qualified, to render a Subject so interesting, some Justice, will not, I hope, be deemed an Impertinence, in one especially who by this Essay, however feeble, hath Nothing beside the Honour and Advantage of *Ireland* in View, a Kingdom whereof he is, without Vanity, proud of being a Native.

As the Story of Savages and Barbarians can contain Nothing instructive, or entertaining, the *Antemilesian* Inhabitants of this Land, having been mostly such, and all surviving Accounts of them almost totally overcast with Fable, we are therefore, in treating of the ancient *Scotia*, or modern *Ireland*, to refer

principally to three distinguished *Æras*, whereof the *first* is, its being peopled by an *Iberian* or *Spanish* Colony: the *second*, truly glorious, the Arrival of *St. Patrick*, in his most salutary Mission: the *third* and last, its Cession to *Henry the 2d*, King of *England*, (the first of the Royal Race of *Plantagenet*;) partly, from a pretended Title of *Adrian the 4th*, Pope of *Rome*, partly, from the restless and insatiable Desires of *Henry*, more, from the manifold Infirmities of the then reigning *Irish* Chiefs—but above all, from the peculiarly adverse Fate of *Roderick*, the last of our Kings.

The assiduous, exact, and candid Author of the *Dissertations*, lately published, on the Origin, Government, Letters, Sciences, Religion, Manners and Customs of the antient Inhabitants of this Country, hath put all those Matters, in so clear and happy, and at the same Time, in so strong a Light, by the Powers of various foreign Testimonies, of undeniable Authenticity, coincident with our own, that scarce any Thing new can be offered on the same Subject.

It may, however, in general be observed, that *Milesius*, a *Spanish* Prince, so far back as the Reign of *Solomon*, (thereunto instigated by Necessity, or induced by Ambition,) with a considerable Number of Associates and Followers, landed from the Western Parts of *Spain*, on the Southern Coasts of this Island, where it is probable they met little, or but faint Opposition from wild and undisciplined Inhabitants.

Those People, from their early Knowledge of the *Phœnician* Arts and Letters, imported such Rudiments of Government and Learning, as those primitive Times admitted; a Truth visible from the Similarity or rather Identity of the *Phœnician* and *Scotic* Alphabet.

This antient Colony quietly settled here, remote from the Storms and Revolutions of the greater World, and secured by Situation from its hostile Incursions, there is no Doubt, but the Cultivation of Religion, Philosophy, Politicks, Poetry, and Mu-

sick,

sick, became the chief Objects of popular Study and Application: The Spirit of Ambition in succeeding Ages, with its unhappy concomitant Train of Sedition, Faction, and Violence, the foreign Invasions, and often the intestine Oppressions and Calamities, to which our neighbouring Nations were subject, calling forth the protective or conciliating Aids of those ancient Heroes, made them great Masters also in the Art military.

The Pentarchy originally formed by those *Iberian* or Celtic *Spaniards*, with a popular Right of Election, was certainly a Kind of Government, extremely consistent with the Essence and Genius of true Liberty, and a System derived from the Patriarchs themselves. For when the various Necessities of Society required a Subordination, together with some stated Maxims to go by, to avoid the confused and promiscuous Intercourse in a State of Nature; then did the People elect the most Virtuous and Wise, to lead and conduct them in Times of War and Trouble, to govern, inform and protect them in milder and more auspicious Seasons. Then was the Motto of the Crown, or of the chief Ensign of Pre-eminence, *Digniori detur*, and so continued till the Degeneracy of Time, and the baneful Growth of Avarice and Pride, with the feverish Lust of Power, perverted it to—*Rapiat Fortior!*

Such, thro' a long Succession of Ages, was the Condition, and such at length the Fate of this Kingdom, destroyed after a longer Continuance than any other can boast, by the Abuse of its own Powers; a sure Argument, that all created Beings, all sublunary Institutions, however wisely composed, in the very Essence of their Creation, and in the very Rudiments of their Formation, comprehend at the same Time the Seeds of Dissolution: Yet it is not more remarkable than true, that in the most boisterous Periods of this Kingdom's antient Establishment, the Arts and Sciences, with the fundamental Principles of Con-

stitution, were preserved and cherished with inviolable Affiduity. The Priests, Philosophers, Advocates, Annalists, Poets and Musicians, were obliged to preserve Religion, political Wisdom, Law, History, &c. hereditarily in their respective Tribes, and to educate in these different Branches the Chiefs and Nobles of the Land, for which they were graciously maintained in secure and splendid Tranquillity: Those Sages attended the National Conventions, where all publick Acts were religiously recorded, and all Abuses of Power and Government retrenched or reformed; nor were they permitted, except in Case of extraordinary Necessity, or uncommon Merit, to deviate from their proper and primitive Spheres of Action: Since where an harmonious Subordination of Rank and Order, hath not been duly preserved, even in free Estates, Liberty itself (wisely attempered, the greatest of all social Blessings,) hath often, from Abuse and Neglect, sickened into Licentiousness, the immediate lewd Mother of Anarchy! In the visible Creation, the direct Result of infinite Wisdom, the lesser Planets do not interfere with, much less shock or oppose the Motions and Revolutions of the greater; they constantly keep the Distances first prescribed them, and all move regularly to their respective Ends. The most verdant and fragrant Meadows, may, from the too frequent Irruption of muddy Waters, degenerate into noxious Marshes, if some Care was not taken to divert those impure Gushings into their proper Channels. Hence it may be inferred, that laying open the most honorary as well as important and useful Professions of Society, to the Intrusion, or rather pyratrical Invasions of the Scum and Dregs of the People, cannot, however varnished over with the fictitious Colourings of pretended Liberty, consist with true Political Wisdom.

Those ancient *Sophi* and *Literati*, enjoyed their Places with the greater Security, that they were unavoidable

vadable by the inferior Classes of Mankind; with the greater Content and Chearfulness, that much Esteem and Emolument were connected with them: The Priest and Advocate informed and directed the Conscience and Conduct; the Historian and Annalist recorded the Institutions; the Poet and Musician celebrated and sung the Exploits, of their Kings and Leaders: No Wonder then, this Kingdom should have been revered at Home, and admired Abroad; when Religion formed, Erudition nurtured, Philosophy strengthened, History preserved, Rhetorick adorned, Musick softened, and Poesy refined, the National Wisdom and Accomplishments; to all which was added a thorough Knowledge of Tactics, and great Skill and Agility in all the athletick Arts, and bodily Exercises.

In the Versions of some original Codes exported by our Countryman, the learned and pious Saint *Fiecbry*, still extant in the *Navarre* Library at *Paris*, the Constitutional Wisdom of *Ireland* appears in a clear and happy Light: *Persons*, *Things*, *Actions*, and *Expression*, were cautiously attended to, by the Laws; *Persons*, in their Minority, Youth, and Manhood, according to their different Ranks in the State, so as by Care, Education, and Discipline, to render them, some subservient, others useful, some beneficial, and others ornamental thereunto. *Things*, so carefully, as to prevent, by Prohibitory Laws, Wastes of whatsoever Kind, and to ascertain to each Individual as well as Society, their proper and distinct Rights. *Actions*, by directing those in general, and particular, to the Honour of the Deity and Welfare of the Community: *Expression*, by the penal Interdiction of prophane Cursing and Swearing, Obscenity, Scurrility, Calumny, and Detraction, yet with a full Indulgence of proper Satire against such as merited popular Reprehension, or Contempt; the Satirist's Pen in those Days, being as much dreaded, or rather more so, than the Magistrate's Rod, and conse-

consequently as diligently avoided by a Demeanour absolutely irreproachable.

It appeareth that, under the antient Government of *Ireland*, the Education of the landed Gentry, when Luxury with its wasteful Catalogue of Vices had not rendered Property so mutable and wavering as in modern Ages, was provided for; whether by the immediate Care of Parents, or essential Attention of Guardians, by the Laws of the Land; in Order that Gentlemen should, to the Antiquity of Birth and Possession, add the important Dignity of Learning, and social Refinement of Arts: Since a Man at the Head of an original Estate, who should, (either from natural Stupidity, Depravity of Manners, or any other fatal Misfortune in his Institution,) want the necessary Cultivation of Letters; was considered only as a Peasant in Disguise, and not more respected than a Hewer of Wood, or Drawer of Water in Masquerade.

In these Writings of *St. Fiecbry*, the legislative Wisdom of *Olam-Fodla*; the philosophically-religious Capacity of *Cormac-O Quin*, who, from the pure Light of Nature, in a great Measure defeated the absurd *Polytheism* of the *Druids*; the consummate Integrity and Impartiality of *Feredach* the Just, and *Moran* his chief Justice; the Magnanimity of *Con-Ked-Caibagh*; the Conquests of *Kineth Mac Alpin*; the long, glorious and peaceful Reign of *Conary* the Great, *coeval* with the Birth of our Blessed Lord and Saviour *Jesus Christ*, (undoubtedly the happiest, brightest, and most blissful Period the World ever saw;) are all displayed in a copious masterly Style, yet with strict chronological Exactness, as is also the Prowess of *Nial* the Great, and *Datby* his Nephew and Successor, who with that elevated Spirit of Heroism peculiar to the Stock they sprung from, generously attempted vindicating the long oppressed *Britons* and *Gauls*, from the *Roman Yoke*. *Datby*, in his victorious Pursuit of those renowned Legions, fell a Victim to the Crash of a Thunderbolt at the Foot of the *Alps*, finely described by
our

our learned and tuneful Countryman, Doctor *Mc. Encrow*, in a panegyrical Poem on the ancient Heroes of this Land, alluding particularly to the Manner of *Darby's* Death, in the two following Lines.

*Sic Belli jacuit prostratum Fulmine Fulmen!
Dejecitque Ducem, solvitque pavore Quirites.*

This learned St. *Fiecbry* was Founder of the University in *Paris*, in the Beginning of the 8th Century, who, the better to enable him to carry on that noble Work, obtained of *Charles* the Great, a Tax on all Wheel Carriages, within the Barriers of that City, whence, a Hackney Coach is at this Day technically called *Fiacre*: *Charles* the Great, among the rest of his glorious Atchievements, in a great Measure, stemmed the Deluge of Gothick Barbarity, in which all the Learning and Refinement of five Centuries, [from *Augustus* to *Augustulus*, defeated about the Year 457 by *Odoacer*, King of the *Heruli* from *Pannonia*, a large District of *Europe*, now *Hungaria*,] were almost totally immersed. We may here remark, that those various Beauties, which with *Augustus*, breathed forth in their full Bloom and Lustre, quite decayed with *Augustulus*.

Charles the Great, in Order to repair the cruel and truly lamentable literary Dilapidations of the ferocious North-men, invited Numbers of the learned and pious *Irish* to the Continent, where he established and entertained them with Dignity, Tenderness and Respect. In a curious Manuscript of *Nicholaus Gurtlerus*, [now in the French King's *Parisian* Library,] a most Pains-taking and authentick Writer, Author of the *Origines Mundi*, where he alludes to these Times, you find the following favourable, but true Account of *Ireland*.---*Temporibus illis, barbaris Normannorum Cohortibus undequaque irrumpentibus, Religio, Fides, Philosophia, Virtus, Hospitalitas, Fortitudo, Castitas, necnon et Amantiores omnium generum Artes, Hibernia solum-*
modo

modò natali, veluti Solo, viguerunt; little Wonder then that *Ireland* should have been esteemed the *Ierne*, or sacred Isle of the *Greeks*, the *Insula Sanctorum*, or Island of Saints of the *Romans*.-- Would to Heaven our Countrymen had, upon all considerable Occasions, recollected those deserved Encomiums, thereby to approve them worthy their applauded Origin, and native Soil!

We now proceed to consider *Ireland* in her happiest and brightest View, after the Admission and Propagation of Christianity. It is certain there were many Christians in *Ireland*, before the Arrival of *Palladius* in 431, or of *St. Patrick* the Year following; *St. Kieran*, *St. Ailbe*, *St. Declan*, and *St. Ibar*, whom *Ussher* calls the Precursors, or Forerunners of *St. Patrick*, are pregnant Proofs of this; they were of the Birth of *Ireland*, from whence they travelled to *Rome*, in Search of Education and Learning, where they lived some Years, were ordained, and returned Home about the Year 402.

That there were some few Christians in *Ireland*, even before this Time, may be gathered from the Lives of *St. Declan*, and *St. Ailbe*, as they are quoted by *Ussher*: For *Declan* is there said to be baptized by one *Colman* a Priest, and *Ailbe* by a Christian Priest, (possibly the same *Colman*) and *Declan*, when he was seven Years old, was put under the Tuition of *Dymna*, a religious Christian, to learn to read, and *St. Cairbre* was his School-Fellow.

The Writer of the Life of *St. Kieran*, publish'd by *Colgan*, says, that he was baptized in *Rome*, in the thirty sixth Year of his Age; that he continued there twenty Years, and on his Return to *Ireland* about the Year 402, *St. Patrick* being then on his Journey to *Rome*, met him in *Italy*, and the Saints of Heaven rejoiced.

It seems that those early Preachers confined their Labours to particular Places, in which they had considerable Success, but fell very short of converting the
Body

Body of the Nation : However, they sowed the Seed which St. *Patrick* came after to water : And it is certain that St. *Patrick* was so well satisfied with the Progress they made, in their particular Districts in *Munster*, that this was the last Province in *Ireland*, he thought proper to visit. That there were many Christians in *Ireland*, at this Period, seems to be confirmed by *Prosper*, who, in giving an Account of the Mission of *Palladius*, says, that he was ordained by Pope *Celestin*, and sent the first Bishop to the *Scots* believing in Christ. This Passage can mean Nothing else, but that *Palladius* born in *Britain*, was sent to the *Scots* [i. e. the *Irish*] who had already formed Churches under *Kieran*, *Ailbe*, *Declan* and *Ibar* ; and so the Bishop of *St. Asaph* expounds it. This then was the next Attempt that was made for the Conversion of the *Irish* : *Palladius* engaged in a more ample and extensive Design than his Predecessors, yet he failed in the Execution of it, stay'd but a short Time in *Ireland*, and did little worth remembring; he converted, however, a few, and is said to have founded three Churches ; but he had neither Courage to withstand the Fierceness of the heathen *Irish*, nor Abilities, for Want of the Language proper for the Work.

Nathi, the Son of *Garcon*, an *Irish* Prince, opposed his Preaching; upon which *Palladius* left the Kingdom, and died in the Land of the *Picts*, on the 15th of *December* 431. This glorious Work was reserved for St. *Patrick*, to whose holy Life, Divine Mission, and extraordinary Success, I refer the Reader. This great Apostle of the *Irish* founded and built the Cathedral Church of *Ardmagh*, about the Year 444 or 45, which, from that early Period to this, hath continued the Metropolitan Church of all *Ireland*. So that 1194 Years passed away from the Founding of the City of *Rome*, to that of *Ardmagh*.

The various and most signal Blessings derived to this Nation, from the salutary Mission of this illustrious

lustrious Saint, require, in Gratitude, our giving the Reader yet a further Account of the Author of such Happiness and Glory to *Ireland*. He was born in the extreme Bounds of *Britain*, (in that part thereof, which is now comprehended within the Limits of the modern *Scotland*) at a Village called *Banaven*, in the Territory of *Tabernia*, (as he himself saith in his Confession) in *Vico Banaven Tabernia*, &c. He tells us that he was born of a good Family, *Ingen-nuus fui secundum Carnem*. His Father was *Calphur-mus* a Deacon, who was the Son of *Potitus* a Priest; from whence may be clearly inferred that the Clergy were not restrained from Matrimony in that Age. He was just advanced into his sixteenth Year, when he was taken Captive, the Manner of which is thus related by Saint *Evin* and others: His Father, Mother, Brother, and five Sisters, undertook a Voyage to *Aremorick Gaul*, (now called *Bass Bretagne*) to visit the Relations of his Mother *Conchessa*. It happened about this Time, that the seven Sons of *Faëlmude*, a *British* Prince, were banished and took to the Sea; that, making an Inroad into *Aremorick Gaul*, they took *Patrick* and his Sister, *Lupita*, (some say *Tigrida* also) Prisoners. They brought their Captives to the North of *Ireland*, and sold *Patrick* to *Milcho Mac Huanan*, a Prince of *Dalaradia*: Others tell the Story in a different Manner, and with a stronger Degree of Probability. That the *Romans* having deserted *Britain*, to preserve their own Country from the barbarous Incursions of the *Northern Hive*, the *Irish* made frequent Conquests, in *North Britain* especially, whence returning victorious, in one of those Expeditions among others brought *Patrick* Captive. But in this they all agree, and he himself confirms it, that he continued Prisoner in *Ireland* six Years; he was sold to *Milcho* and his three Brothers, which gave the Occasion of his changing his Name into *Cathraigh*, or rather *Ceathir-Tigh*, because he served four Masters; *Ceathir* signifying four, and *Tigh* a House or Family. *Milcho*
observing

observing the Care and Diligence of his new Servant, bought out the Shares of his Brothers, and made him his own Property. He sent him to feed his Hogs on *Sliev-Mis*. And St. *Patrick* himself tells us his Behaviour in this Office.

“My constant Business was to feed the Hogs. I was frequent in Prayer; the Love and Fear of God more and more inflamed my Heart; my Faith was enlarged, and my Spirit augmented, so that I said an hundred Prayers by Day, and almost as many by Night. I arose before Day to my Prayers, in the Snow, in the Frost, and in the Rain, and yet I received no Damage; nor was I affected with Slothfulness; for then the Spirit of God was warm within me.” It was here he perfected himself in the *Irish* Language, the wonderful Providence of God visibly appearing in this Instance of his Captivity, that he shou’d have the Opportunity in his tender Years of becoming well acquainted with the Language, Manners, and Dispositions of that People, to whom he was intended as a future Apostle. He continued six whole Years in Servitude, and in the seventh was released. There seems to have been a Law in *Ireland* for this Purpose, agreeable to the Institution of *Moses*; that a Servant shou’d be released the seventh Year.

Having parted from his Master, after a great Variety of Distresses, he at length arrived to his Parents, who received him with extraordinary Joy; with those he remained two Years, and probably would much longer, had he not by a Vision been quickened to a more active and glorious Life. In this he thought he saw a Man coming to him from *Ireland*, whose Name was *Victoricus*, with a great Number of Letters; that he gave him one of them to read, in the Beginning of which were contained these Words, *Vox-Hibernacum*, the Voice of the *Irish*: While he was reading this Letter, he thought, the same Moment, that he heard the Voice of the Inhabitants who lived near the Wood of *Foclut*, in the Barony of *Tyr-Awley*, and County.

County of *Mayo*, hard by the Western Sea, crying to him with an audible and distinct Voice. "We entreat thee, holy Youth, to come and walk among us." He was greatly amazed at this Vision, and awoke; it animated him, however, to his future Studies and heavenly Progress; so far even, that he tells us himself, he thanked God; that after many Years he had dealt with the *Irish*, according to their crying out.

These early Scenes of this great Saint's Life, should, among many others, serve as Lessons of Charity, Consideration, and Humility, to the Rich, the Great, the Proud, and the Wanton; who may recollect that, altho' he was well born, *Ingenuus fuit secundum Carnem*; he was, nevertheless, in the most vigorous Season of Life, a Slave and a Swine-Herd: Happy, though wretched Servitude! in which, his leisure Hours, mostly employed in Christian Confidence and Prayer, made him so signally the Favourite of Heaven, that from those cloudy Dawnings, he in Process of Time became a learned Doctor, a sanctified Missioner, a venerable Prelate, an eminent Primate, a national Apostle, and the bright Instructor of Kings! Such were the fruitful Rewards of uninterrupted unshaken Devotion, Piety, and Zeal! From this Time he formed the steady Resolution of converting the *Irish*; and, the better to accomplish the Heavenly Task, he undertook a laborious Journey to foreign Countries, to enrich his Mind with Learning and Experience.

He continued abroad thirty five Years, pursuing his Studies under the Direction principally of his Mother's Uncle, *St. Martin*, Bishop of *Tours*, who had ordained him Deacon; and after his Death, partly with *St. German*, Bishop of *Auxerre*, (who ordained him a Priest, and called his Name *Magonius*, which was the third Name he was known by,) partly among a Colony of *Hermits* and *Monks*, in some *Islands* of the *Tuscan* Sea; and he employed a good Part of the Time in the City of *Rome*, among the Canons Regular of the *Lateran* Church: At length, having his Soul thoroughly

roughly tempered with religious Virtue, enlightened with the true Evangelical Faith, and his Understanding enlarged by the most profitable and edifying Studies. He arrived in *Ireland* about the 60th Year of his Age; and in the Year of our Lord 432, landed in the County of *Wicklow*, where he began his Ministry, by the Conversion of *Sinell*, a great Man in that Country, the Grandson of *Finchad*, who ought to be remembered, as he was the first Fruits of St. *Patrick's* Mission in *Ireland*; he was the 8th in lineal Descent from *Carmac*, King of *Leinster*, and came afterwards to be enumerated among the Saints of *Ireland*. From this Country he sailed to an Island on the Coast of the County of *Dublin*, called after him *Inis Phadring*, and by the *English*, *Holm Patrick* at this Day, where he and his faithful Companions rested after their Fatigues. From *Inis Phadring*, he sailed Northward to that Part of *Ulster* called *Ulidia*, and put in at *Inbber-slaying* Bay. When he and his Fellow Labourers landed, *Dichu*, the Son of *Trickem*, Lord of the Country, being informed that they were Pyrates, came out with armed Men in order to kill them: But being struck with the venerable Appearance of St. *Patrick*, he gave him Audience, and listened attentively to the Word of Life preached by him; he changed his wicked Purpose, believed, and was baptized, and brought over all his Family to the Faith: It is further observed of him, that he was the first Person in *Ulster*, who embraced Christianity. He dedicated the Land whereon his Conversion was wrought to the Service of God, where a Church was erected, changed after to an eminent Monastery. He travelled hence by Land to *Clunebois* in *Daláradia*, to endeavour the Conversion of his old Master *Milcho*, whose Service he had left thirty eight Years before; but this obstinate Prince, hearing of the great Success of St. *Patrick's* preaching, and ashamed to be persuaded in his old Age, to forsake the Religion of his Ancestors, (by one especially who had been his Servant, in a most inferior

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Station,)

Station,) made a funeral Pile of his House and Goods, and by the Instigation of the Enemy of Mankind, burned himself therein : thus ended *Milcho Mc. Huanan*. Hence he returned to *Inis*, the Habitation of *Dichu*, and in his Journey converted great Numbers to the true Faith of *Christ*. In some time, he took his leave of *Dichu*, and bent his course Southward by Sea, keeping the Coast on his Right Hand, and arrived at Port *Colbdi*, where he landed and committed the Care of his Vessel to his Nephew *Luman*, desiring him to wait for him there forty Days, while he and his Disciples were travelling in the inner Parts of the Country to preach the Gospel. His Intention in this Journey was, to celebrate the Festival of *Easter* in the Plains of *Bregia*, and to be in the Neighbourhood of the Great Triennial Convention at *Tarab*, which at this Season was held by King *Leogair*, and all his Tributary Princes, Nobles, *Druids*, *Annalists*, and *Fileas*. St. *Patrick* wisely foreseeing that whatever Impressions he shou'd make on this august Assembly must have an Influence on the whole Kingdom, and therefore being supported with invincible Christian Fortitude, resolved not to be absent from a Place where his Presence was so conducive to the Ends of his Holy Ministry.

Never did the Spirit of popular Freedom exert itself more powerfully or harmoniously, than in those truly parliamentary Triennial Conventions of *Ireland*, where the supreme Monarch, the Provincial Kings, the feudatory Lords, the Nobles, landed Men, *Druids*, &c. by the unbiaſſed Suffrages of the People, convened for the Peace, good Government and Security of each particular Province, as well as those of the whole Kingdom. Many Centuries had this wise Constitution subsisted here, before our Neighbours, even of *South Britain* knew any thing relative to Houses, or Raiment; it being notorious that so late as the Arrival of *Julius Cæsar* among them, they painted their Bodies, to render them terrible, and lived in the open

open Fields. It is really somewhat surprizing that People so near in Situation, should differ so essentially in Disposition, as the Inhabitants of those Islands have in all Ages ; Hospitality having been the distinguishing Attribute of the *Irish*; and it's opposite Defect, that of the *Britons* ; the Account given of them by *Horace* 1700 and odd Years ago, *Visam Britannos Hospitibus feros*, being as literally applicable to them at this Day, where the Force of Education doth not operate to mitigate their natural Ferocity.

But to return : St. *Patrick* in his Way to *Tarab*, took up his Lodgings at the House of the hospitable *Sesgnen* in *Meath*, who kindly received and welcomed him. St. *Patrick* preach'd Christ and his Gospel to him ; he believed, and was baptized with his whole Family.

From the House of *Sesgnen*, he moved Westward, and arrived on *Easter-Eve* at *Fierta-fir-feic*, on the Northern Banks of the River *Boyne*, where he rested, resolving there to prepare for the next Day's Solemnity. It was penal for any Person at the Time of the Celebration of this solemn Convention at *Tarab*, to kindle a Fire in the Province, before the King's Bonfire first appeared. I am of Opinion this was a religious Ceremony, as the chief Deity of the antient Inhabitants, in exterior Worship especially, was *Bel*, or *Belus* ; whence *Apollo* or *Ap-baul*, the Son of the Sun, whom they emblematically worshipped, by those fiery Offerings ; whence the first Day of *May* peculiarly dedicated to this *Bel*, is even now in *Irish*, called *Lba-Bel-Tbinib*, and probably from the same Source, may be derived the Custom of lighting up Bonfires, and Sops, on the Eve of the 24th Day of *June*. St. *Patrick*, however, either not knowing or not minding this Ceremony, lighted up a Fire before his Booth, which altho' eight Miles distant from *Tarab*, was very visible. It was seen with Astonishment from Court, and the *Druids* informed the King, that if he did not immediately extinguish the Fire, he who kindled it, and his Successors, shou'd for ever hold the Principa-

lity of *Ireland*, which hath hitherto turned out a true Prediction of those Heathen Priests, in a Primatial and Spiritual Principality.

The King dispatched Messengers to bring *Patrick* before him, and gave his positive Orders, that Nobody shou'd presume to rise out of his Seat, or pay him the least Honour : But *Ere*, the Son of *Dego*, ventured to disobey this Command ; he arose and offered the Holy Father his Seat. St. *Patrick* preached to him and converted him. He became a Person of eminent Sanctity, and after some time was consecrated by St. *Patrick*, Bishop of *Slain*.

The Day following, when St. *Patrick* and two of his Disciples appeared unexpectedly at Court, and preached to the King and all his Nobles, *Dubtach* the King's Poet Laureat, payed Honour and Respect to the Saint, and was converted by his Preaching. *Fiech*, a young Poet, who was under the Tuition of *Dubtach*, was also converted, and afterwards made Bishop of *Sletty*, and is said to have been the Author of a celebrated Poem, composed in Praise of St. *Patrick*. *Anselm*, Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, relates the Conversion of *Tingar*, the Son of *Clito*, (one of the Nobles in this Assembly,) in the same Manner. The Queen also, and many others of the Court, became Christians ; and altho' the King held out for a long Time with great Obstinacy, yet at last he submitted to be baptized. St. *Patrick* is said here to have wrought many Miracles : There cou'd not truly, even according to the Purposes of human Wisdom, have happened a more solemn or weighty Occasion, for God Almighty's supporting this Holy Preacher by Miracles, than when the collective Body of the whole Nation was assembled together ; from whose Report and Conviction, the Influences of his blessed Works and Doctrine must of Course spread through the whole Kingdom.

His Conduct and Proceedings here, with a particular Detail of the Miracles wrought by him, may be had

had at large in the History of his Life, published by *John Colgan*.

From *Tarah*, the Saint proceeded next to *Talten*, not far from thence, at the Season of the Royal Diversions : Here he preached to *Cairbre*, and *Conall*, the two Brothers of King *Leogin* ; the former received him with great Indignity, and perversely shut his Ears against his Doctrine ; but *Conall* believed, and was baptized, and gave St. *Patrick* a Place to build a Church on.

This *Conall* was Great-Grand Father to *Columb-Kill*. He spent the Remainder of this Year in *Meath* and *Louth*, and the Districts adjoining, preaching, and converting great Numbers of People. The *Taltenian* Sports above mentioned, have been much celebrated by the *Irish* Historians, and Antiquaries. They were a kind of warlike Exercises, somewhat resembling the *Olympick* Games, consisting of Racing, Tilts, Tournaments, Wrestling, Leaping, Vaulting, and all other manly and martial Exercises, which gave rise to the many hyberbolical Tales, formerly related of those *Taltenian* Sports. They were exhibited every Year at *Talten*, a Mountain in *Meath*, for fifteen Days before, and fifteen Days after the first of *August*. Their first Institution is ascribed to *Lughaid-lam-fadba*, the twelfth King of *Ireland*, who began his Reign A. M. 2764 (a sufficient Proof of *Ireland's* Antiquity as a Kingdom.) They were ordained by *Lughaid*, in Gratitude to the Memory of *Tailte*, the Daughter of *Magb-More*, (a Prince of some Part of *Spain*,) who having been married to *Eochaid*, King of *Ireland*, took this same *Lughaid* under her Protection, and had the Care of his Education in his Minority. From this Princess, both the Sports, and the Place, where they were celebrated, took their Names : From *Lughaid*, the first of *August* was called *Lugnasa*, or the Memory of *Lughaid Nasa*, signifying Memory, in the *Irish* Language.

In

In the Year of the World 2700, *Gideon* then reigning fourth Judge of the *Hebrews*, appeared many Heroes, as *Hercules*, *Orpheus*, *Castor*, *Pollux*, the *Argonauts*, *Jason*, *Laomedon*, *Theseus*, *Dedalus*, &c. The *Amazones*, Heroines of *Scythic* Extraction, having lost their Husbands in Battle, took up Arms themselves, with a manly Spirit of Resentment, and (inspired with Love of their deceased Husbands, and Grief for so great and irretrievable a Loss!) subdued *Asia*, and built *Ephesus*. *Hercules* and *Theseus* waged War against those Heroines, and defeated them, more to the Glory of the Vanquished than their own, those Matrons having defended themselves with surprizing Resolution. They cut off the Guards set over them, and escaped the Severity and Pride of their Conquerors. *Hercules*, in Honour of such extraordinary heroick Females, instituted the *Olympick* Games; as likewise did *Theseus*, the *Isthmian*, in the Year of the World, about 2700; the *Taltenian* Sports, the very same with the *Olympick*, brought sixty four Years after from *Spain* into *Ireland*, by *Tailte*, and her Followers. Now this *Tailte*, Queen of *Ireland*, was the Grand Daughter of an *Amazon* Princess, those immortal Females, having with their Progeny, Friends and Followers, to avoid the ruinous Hostilities of *Hercules*, and *Theseus*, sought Shelter in *Spain*, whither they imported the Learning of *Trismegistus*, the Grand Son of *Mercury*, and Glory of *Ægypt*, together with all the literary Arts derived into *Greece*, from *Phœnicia*, by *Cadmus*, the Brother of *Europa*, about the Year of the World 2530; *Othniel* then reigning the first Judge of the *Hebrews*. The Posterity of this ancient and illustrious Colony, about the Year of the World 3000, (*Solomon* then reigning with great Splendour, third King of the *Hebrews*,) settled in this Kingdom, as before observed: So that, by an impartial Estimate of Dates, Periods, and Facts, our Origin is well ascertained, our early Possession of Letters, wise Policy, and the politer Arts, proved, and the Remark of an *Italian* Monk in the

7th Century, from the University of *Mongret*, in an Epistle to his Correspondent at *Rome*, justified, *Nil mirum Populum hunc Celtico Scythicum è præclarâ Amazonidum stirpè oriundum, verâ Religionè et incorruptâ Fide illuminatum, sapientia Doctrina optimisque Moribus ornatum, viros fortes et Fæminas castas plerumque procreare.* A Rescript of this Original Epistle still extant, in the *Vatican* Library, some Years ago in the Hands of Father *Don Levy*, may therefore, I believe, be found in the College of *Lombard* at *Paris*.

At *Talten*, St. *Patrick* converted great Numbers of all Ranks and Denominations, from the different Quarters of the Kingdom; which extraordinary Success of the Saint, with that of his subsequent happy Progress, in planting the Doctrine of Life, lead me to the following Queries.

Q. Who was *Patrick*?

A. A private Gentleman, and a Stranger.

Q. Had he been formerly in *Ireland*, and if so, in what Capacity?

A. He was, and in the lowest of all Stations, to wit, a Slave and a Swine-Herd.

Q. Having obtained his Liberty, departed from *Ireland*, and returned six or eight and thirty Years after; what was the Consequence of such his Return?

A. The happy and glorious Conversion of the whole People to the Christian Faith, wherein, with God's Blessing, they have persevered 1327 Years, and will to the End of Time.

Q. Did he come armed with temporal Power, or Authority, to eradicate a favourite System of 2532 Years standing? (for so long it was before the first Preaching of St. *Patrick*, that *Ninus*, the Son of *Belus*, blinded with Vanity, and intoxicated with Pride, commanded Divine Adoration to be paid the Image, or Likeness of his Father, the primitive baneful Source of Idolatry.)

A. No, he was only attended by a few meek unarmed Friends and Followers.

Q. Did

Q. Did he, by a Profusion of Wealth, bribe the People out of their long cherished Opinions ?

A. No, his Kingdom being that of his Master, he employed not in his Mission, any Thing of this World.

Q. Did he preach a Doctrine leading to worldly Glory, or productive of sensual Joy ?

A. No, on the contrary, his Doctrine inspired a Contempt of this World, and all it's transient Enjoyments ; but led directly to the World of Life and Light, where alone are secure Bliss, and Fulness of Joy for evermore : And as for those inordinate Desires that Man, in the State of frail Nature, is subject to ; far from gratifying those, he demonstrated, how inconsistent an irregular Indulgence of them was with true Happiness, either in this or the Life to come.

Q. We find that *Draco* and *Solon*, the *Athenian* Lawgivers, were wise, powerful, and *Athenians* ; *Lycurgus* in the same Character and Light with the *Spartans*, *Romulus* and his Successor *Numa Pompilius*, the first Kings and Lawgivers of the *Romans*, and that the latter had added the Dignity of the sacerdotal, to the Regal Office : And yet we find the Institutions of those great and powerful Sages, mutable, transitory and local : How came it then, that the Doctrine of this humble Stranger, without the Aids of human Grandeur or Wealth, or the Supports of human Power or Influence, became general and permanent ?

A. Because the eternal Spirit of God inspired his Doctrine, and promoted it's Establishment ; that Spirit, which, from the Beginning of Time, mercifully presided over the Doctrines of Salvation ; that Spirit, which human Sagacity cannot baffle, or human Authority defeat ; that Spirit, which alone prepareth for Truth, for Purity, for Holiness, and everlasting Life, *Magna erat veritas et prævaluit, Magna est veritas et prævalet, Magna erit veritas et æternum prævalebit.* And indeed a serious Attention to the constant regular uninterrupted Flow of salutary religious Truth, from the first Man to this Day, triumphing over Ignorance, Concupiscence

cupiscence and Opposition, must to the thinking Mind, afford Strength, Enlargement, Instruction, Edification and Comfort. If we consider the Patriarchs; the Legislation of *Moses*; the Prophets; the *Hebrew* Judges and Kings under a Theocracy; the Birth of our Lord and Saviour *Jesus Christ*, identically corresponding with the Predictions of various Prophets, in different Ages; his Life, his Miracles and Passion, and the peculiar Divinity of his Doctrine, propagated and diffused by his Apostles, and sealed with the Blood of Martyrs; (which no earthly Powers, nor devised Torments cou'd persuade them to abjure,) approved by the Holy Fathers, maintained by venerable Prelates, and preached by learned, exemplary Divines, in all Ages.—If we attend, I say, to those noble and important Truths, thus finely connected, and visible thro' all the Clouds, that either human Pride, human Errors, human Tyranny, or human Lusts, have obscured them with; how contemptible and nugatory will all the Writings, rather Scriblings, of *Pyrrho*, *Spinoza*, *Hobbes*, and the whole black Legion of modern Free-thinking Latitudinarians appear, however connected with Sophistry, and varnished over with false Rhetorick!

The great and truly pious Bishop *Beveridge*, in the 27th Page of the 2d Volume of his Sermons, has the following beautiful and sublime Remark, "There is more solid Joy and Comfort, more real Delight and Satisfaction of Mind, in one single Thought of God, rightly formed, than all the Riches and Honours and Pleasures of this World, put them all together, are able to afford." Now I shall not hesitate to pronounce more real Strength, Worth, Conviction and Charm in this single Sentiment, than in all the labour'd, dark-spun Pages of the Opposers of Religion, and Railers at the Clergy, from *Iucian* to *Gordon*, and to those wretched Scale-eyed abandoned Buzzards, who wou'd endeavour to inculcate the Soul's Mortality. I disdain opposing any other Refutation than the Sentiment of *Tully*, an Heathen Philosopher; which let

them read, and blush, if of blushing they are capable. *Quidquid est illud, quod sentit, quod sapit, quod vult, quod viget, Caeleste et Divinum est, ob eamque rem æternum sit necesse est.*

It will be easy to conceive now, that the persuasive, the charming Voice of the Christian Religion, was attentively and deeply listened to, all over the Land; its sacred Doctrines imbibed in Speculation, and its Divine Precepts obeyed in Practice: What a serene Face of Beauty and Perfection, every Object under its Celestial Influence had assumed! This Idea will be the clearer, the more permanent and comprehensive, when we consider, that the Christian Doctrine only bringeth Light to Dungeons, and Freedom to Jails; diffuseth a Calm over tempestuous Shipwrecks; giveth Steadiness to those tottering on the ruinous Verge of a devouring Earthquake; inspireth the Soul with comfortable Hope, when Fires blaze, and Faggots crackle; raiseth the Innocent superior to the oppressive iniquitous Conspiracies of the Jealous, the Covetous, and the Vindictive; sheddeth an healing Balm over the malignant Wounds inflicted by the poyson'd Virulence of the slanderous Tongue; scorneth the Oppressors Wrongs, and proud Man's Contumely: In fine, when we consider that this Doctrine, evidently and eminently divine, filleth the human Breast with an heroick Consciousness, and noble Elevation of joyous Confidence, which neither Sickness, Wants, Terrors, human Malice, or studied Torments can extinguish; we shall the more easily and readily reconcile the glorious Characters given by the Learned of that Country, (wherein it was universally believed, preached and practised,) to the Standard of right Reason and Truth.

In this shining Period, were Cathedrals and Churches erected, Universities founded and established, Colleges, Seminaries and Schools propagated in many Parts of this Kingdom, which at the same Time became a peaceful and hospitable Retreat to religious and learned

ed Men, disturbed on the Continent of *Europe*, by the frequent Invasions, and cruel Hostilities of the North-men, whose Pyracies and Barbarity, even *Ireland* cou'd not always escape ! For, from the Time of *Artrigius*, Arch-Bishop of *Ardmagh* in 822, for near 200 Years the cruel *Danes* miserably ravaged this Kingdom, destroying, by Fire and Sword, every Establishment, as well of Piety as Learning, [to both which, and to all religious Maxims of civilized Society, they had been avowed implacable Enemies,] till they were themselves in 1014, totally defeated at *Clontarf*, by the invincible Arms of the Great Monarch, *Bryan Borou*, from whom descended a Race conspicuous for exemplary Prelates, heroick Leaders, and steady Patriots.

The learned Author of the *Dissertations* before mentioned, charges this Hero with a Violation of the Constitution of his Country : Yet the Violation seems of far earlier Date; when the supreme Monarchy was, by the *Hugonian* Law, inalienably united to one Family, whose Sovereignty, however founded originally, whether by Birth, or Election, was essential to the public Welfare : For we must allow that the Preservation of the People, is the principal Law to which all others are subordinate, *Salus Populi suprema Lex* ; and equally, that not only the Necessities; but the Safety also of the People at that Time of Danger and Distraction, eagerly called forth the Conduct and Valour, the protective and restorative Abilities of that great and virtuous Man, of whom a faithful Historian in his Detail of the Battle of *Clontarf*, says : *Integrâ prius adepta Victoris rebus humanis eodem Die excessit, vir Belli ac Pacis summus, Justitiæ, Religionis, Literarum, Cultor eximius, ac cum Carolo Magno atque comparandus.*

In the 239th Page of the *Dissertations*, the excellent Author expresseth himself as follows,

“I now proceed to give some Account of the second Royal House of *Scots*, the oldest of the *Milesian* Race,

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and

and the Posterity of *Eber*". This Race then being avowedly the oldest, in Respect of Primogeniture, must, of Course, have been prior in Point of Dignity and Sway, or at least, equally entitled to the Election of the People to such Ranks; were not those by violent Measures annexed to the *Heremonian* Line: Yet, however this might have been, certain it is, that no Houses that we read of, ancient or modern, have produced a greater Number of truly heroick Princes, or of longer Continuance, than those of the North and South *Hynial*; from whom also issued many Noble Families of real Worth, and equal Renown. With *Bryan*, the happy Genius of *Ireland*, in a great Measure, expired: For the cruel *Danes* had, for near 200 Years before, so wofully overturned the Universities of *Ardmagh*, *Dondaleith-Glass*, *Mongret* and *Lismore*, with all other Seminaries of Piety and Learning, (the only genuine Sources of national Greatness, Concord, good Discipline, and Happiness,) had obliged, in the 8th Century, so many learned Men to seek that Shelter and Security on the Continent, which the barbarous Hostilities, and impious Manners of those Northerners, denied them at Home; had made such frequent lamentable Breaches in the antient, wise Constitution of the Kingdom; had, by the fatal Example of their profligate dissolute Lives, so vitiated the national Morality; and finally, had left behind them so many noxious Seeds of Faction and Anarchy, as, in less than two Centuries, gave up a Kingdom, of above 2000 Years Establishment, the unaccountable Prey of a few adventurous *Normans*!

It was probably owing to an Increase of those manifold crying Evils, that *Donogh*, Son and Successor of the Great *Bryan*, undertook a Journey to *Rome*, to lay both himself and Crown at the Pontiff's Feet, to implore the Remission of his, and his People's Sins, and a future Blessing over his Authority: For, assuredly, if his Subjects were generally and incorrigibly contaminated with *Danish* Impiety, a temporary Surrender of his Jurisdiction to any Power on Earth, that could reason-

reasonably be hoped to reclaim and reform them, must have been therefore truly christian and heroick. In Defence of this Opinion, (it appearing from the Chronicle of the *Isle of Man*, that *Godred*, or *Gotbrick Crovan*, King of *Man*, subdued *Dublin*, and a good Part of *Leinster*, about the Year 1070, and that he also, in Conjunction with *Tirdelvac O'Brien*, King of *Ireland*, Son of *Donagh*, recommended *Gilda-Patricianus*, a Pious *Ostman* to *Lanfranc*, Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, in Order to be consecrated Bishop of *Dublin*;) we here give a Copy of the Arch-Bishop's Letter to the King, taken from the Annals of Cardinal *Baronius*.

"*Lanfranc* a Sinner, and, though unworthy, Arch-bishop of the Holy Church of *Canterbury*, to *Tirdelvac*, the mighty King of *Ireland*, a Blessing with our Service and Prayers."

"God bestoweth no greater Mercies on Earth, than when he promoteth to the Government of Souls and Bodies, such who affect Peace, and work Justice; and especially, when he committeth the Kingdoms of this World to good Kings: For, from hence Peace ariseth, Discord is extinguished, and, that I may sum up all in a Word, the Observance of Christian Religion is established; which Blessing, every prudent Observer perceives to have been divinely conferred on the People of *Ireland*, when the Omnipotent God, granted unto your Excellency the Right of Kingly Power over that Land. For our Brother and Fellow-Bishop, *Patrick*, hath declared so many and such great and good Things, of your Excellency's pious Humility towards good Men, and of your rigorous Severity to the Wicked, and of your well disposed Justice and Equity towards all Mankind; that, although we never saw you, yet we love you as if we had seen you, and we desire to give you wholesome Council, and to serve you as sincerely, as if you were well known unto us. But, among many Things which please us, some Things have been related unto us, wherewith we are displeased, (*viz.*) That in
your

your Kingdom every one, at his Pleasure, relinquisheth his lawful married Wife, without any canonical Cause intervening, and rashly joins himself by a marital or concubinary Law with any other, although never so near a Kin to himself, or his deserted Wife, or joins himself to another, wickedly deserted by her Husband. That Bishops are consecrated by one Bishop only : That, in several Towns and Cities, there be more than one Bishop ordained : That Infants are baptized without consecrated Chrism : And that Holy Orders are conferred by Bishops for Money. There is no Man so meanly versed in Holy Writ, but knows that all these Things, and the like, are done contrary to evangelical, and apostolical Authority ; against the Prohibition of the holy Canons ; and against the Institutions of all the orthodox Fathers, who have gone before us : Which Things, by how much, in the Sight of God and his Saints, they are more abhorred, so much the more severely are they to be prohibited by your Command, without Delay : And, being prohibited, if they be not corrected, you are to punish them with the strict Severity of your Terror. For you cannot offer unto God a greater, or more acceptable Present, than to study to govern divine and human Things with proper Laws. Wherefore, as always mindful of the divine Judgment, wherein you are to render an Account to God of the Kingdom committed to you ; command all Bishops, and religious Men, to convene together, and in their holy Conversation be you present, with your Nobles, to exterminate from your Kingdom these wicked Customs, and all others, which are not approved by the Law of God : So that when the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, shall see your Royal Majesty subject in all Things to his Precepts, and favourable to his faithful People, out of Fear and Love to him, and possessed with Zeal against the Enemies of the true Religion ; he may propitiously hear your faithful Subjects crying unto him, may suppress

press your Enemies, and grant to you in this World a firm Peace, and in the World to come, eternal Life."

Patrick governed the See of *Dublin*, about ten Years, and, in a Voyage to *England*, perished by Shipwreck, in the *British* Sea, on the 16th of *October*, 1084, having been sent to *Lanfranc*, Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, by King *Tirdelvac*.

Donat, or *Dongus O' Haingly*, having spent some Time in the Study of useful Learning in *Ireland*, went over into *England*, and became a *Benedictine Monk* at *Canterbury*. He was afterwards (by the Consent of King *Tirdelvac*, and the Clergy of *Dublin*,) consecrated, A. D. 1085, in the Cathedral of *Canterbury*, by the before-mentioned *Lanfranc*, to whom he made the following Profession of Obedience.

"I, *Donat*, Bishop of the See of *Dublin* in *Ireland*, do promise Canonical Obedience to you, O' *Lanfranc*, Arch-Bishop of the holy Church of *Canterbury*, and to your Successors."

The following Epistle, which King *Tirdelvac*, sent to *Lanfranc*, in Favour of this Prelate, is still extant in the *Annals of Ulster*.

Tirdelvac, King of *Ireland*, to the Right Rev. Father in God, *Lanfranc*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, Greeting.

"We *Tirdelvac*, and the Clergy of *Dublin*, being bereaved of our good and pious Pastor, *Patrick*, are grieved in a double Sense; first, for his sad Misfortune, being swallowed up in the Deep; secondly, for the Loss of his wholesome Doctrine, with which he was wont to feed our Souls. Had he safely arrived, you would have had an Account how I have followed your fatherly Instructions, which you recommended to me by our late deceased Father. But this *Donat*, (whom we desire may be consecrated by your Fatherhood, and the rest of the holy Prelates belonging to your See,) will inform you further. Grace, Peace, and Happiness attend on you, and your Followers, Amen."

From those Letters, it is clear, the Defection in

the religious Morals of the People, was general and extraordinary ; which consequently required some new and extraordinary Application to its Redress : And this sufficiently explains the Motives of the pious King *Donogh's* Journey to *Rome*. After all, among the various Titles, which the Popes pretended to this Kingdom, no Cession of this King's temporal Jurisdiction appears, or is even suggested as one. As to the temporal Power challenged by the *Pope*, over *Ireland*, his most zealous Favourers produce three Titles only, of their Master's direct Dominion thereof : First, a special Grant, pretended to have been made by the Inhabitants of the Country, at the Time of their first Conversion to Christianity. Secondly, a Right which the *Pope* challengeth to all Islands in general. And lastly, the Covenants made by King *John*, to the *Pope*.

As to the *first* ; *Usber* proves that it was invented by *Polidore Virgil*, an *Italian*, the Collector of the *Pope's Peter-pence*, in the Reign of *K. Henry 8th*, who, to do the best Service he could for his Employer, gives an Account, in his History of *England*, That the *Irish*, being moved to accept *Henry the 2d* for their King, denied that it could be otherwise done, but by the *Pope's* Authority : " Because [says he] that from the Time of their embracing Christianity, they submitted themselves to his Power, and constantly affirmed that they had no other Lord, but the *Pope* ; of which they yet brag." In this he is followed by *Edmond Campion*, and *Nicholas Saunders*, two *Englishmen*, as fond of advancing the *Pope's* temporal Authority, as the *Italian* was. He confutes this Claim by the *Bull* of *Pope Adrian the 4th*, to King *Henry the 2d* ; [and this includes the *second* Pretence,] which mentions Nothing of this Title ; but hath Recourse to that far-fetched Interest, which he saith the Church of *Rome* hath to all Christian Islands, unto which Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, hath shined, and which, having received the Instructions of the Christian Faith, do appertain to the Right of *St. Peter*, and the Holy Church of *Rome*. He shews the Ground of this strange Claim from *John of Salisbury*,

Salisbury, an Intimate of Pope *Adrian*; at whose special Instance the Grant was made.

“At my Request [saith he,] he granted *Ireland* to *Henry* the 2d; to be possessed by Right of Inheritance; for all Islands; of antient Right; are said to belong to the Church of *Rome*, by the Donation of *Constantine*, who founded and endowed the same:” He shews then first, that the Donation of *Constantine*, hath been long since deemed groundless; and therefore rejected as an idle Fiction: Secondly, that even in the said chimerical Donation, there is Mention made of *Islands* in one Place only; where no more Power is given to the Church of *Rome* over them, than in general over the whole Continent, East, West, North, and South; and in particular over *Judea*, *Greece*, *Asia*, *Thrace* and *Africa*, which have never been accounted as *St. Peter’s* Patrimony. Thirdly, that *Constantine* had no Interest in *Ireland*, and therefore could not confer it on another.

He then gives an Abstract of the History of *Ireland*, in Relation to the Title the Kings of *England* have to it, [viz] partly by Conquest, prosecuted at first upon Occasion of a social War, and partly by the Submissions of the Chieftains of the Land, and the Clergy, made afterwards, of which he gives the particular Instances, and adds the Pope’s Authority; which was of great Weight in those Days: And he shews that *Peter Pence* had their Original from this Grant in *Ireland*.

As to the 3d Claim, viz. King *John’s* Covenants to the Pope, he thinks them as ill-grounded as the other two, but of short Duration, and as little Efficacy.

Upon the Whole: It is evident the Title of the Kings of *England*, to this Kingdom, by Papal Donation, or Appointment, was very insufficient, if not absolutely trifling: Nor could a Right of Conquest be urged in any Period of the Reign of *Henry* the Second, or his Descendants. But the Great and Royal Families of *Ireland*, long the Prey of Faction, deliberately preferred a limited and stipulated Submission to foreign

Authority, to the various Evils arising from intestine Feuds and Animosities; and this, had the wise Conditions thereof been constantly attended to, with mutual Observance, had been a sound Title, well and judiciously founded.

True it is, that after the Surrender of the Crown by King *John*, to the See of *Rome*, the Pope exerted some temporal Authority in this Kingdom, instanced in his having created * *Mac Con More Mac Namara*, Duke of *Klan Cullane*, a Man of great Valour and Piety, supported by ample Possessions in the Baronies of *Tulla* and *Bunratty*, in the County of *Clare*; which extensive Districts intirely belonged to that antient, hospitable, martial, and religious Race, of which *Mac Con More* was Chief: The *Mac Namaras*, more or less, have in all Ages made, and still continue to make a distinguished Figure, as well in the Field, as in the learned Professions; and were formerly so warlike a People, that of themselves, they formed an heroic Cavalry, justly stiled the *Phalans* of that Part of *Ireland*, wherein they resided.

The Author of this Essay, conscious of his Wants of genealogical, chronological, and historical Knowledge, and of his Defects, not only as to the Method, but Style proper for treating such Matters, and intending Nothing more by his feint Endeavour, than to give those, to whom methodical Reading, and nice Connections may prove painful, some general Idea of the real Worth, and Value of their native Country, (a Purpose, in which, should he succeed, he is amply rewarded,) hopeth for that Indulgence from such as may employ a few Minutes in the Perusal of those Sheets, due to his Intentions.

There are but few of sufficient Self-denial, to pore over musty long-neglected Authors, to crawl thro' moth-eaten Records, and rake thro' the Devastations

* This *Mac Con More Macnamara*, Duke of *Klan Cullane*, founded, erected and amply endowed the beautiful Abbey of *Quin*; as did other Chieftains of his Name and Family, several Parochial Churches, with a great Number of magnificent Castles.

ons of Centuries, where no View of Encouragement, Preferment, Rewards, or even Thanks can exist, (demonstrably evinced in the repeated Editions of any stupid balderdash Farce, such as Captain O *Blunder*, &c. calculated to throw our Country into Ridicule; whilst the + *Dissertations* before mentioned, written with such nice chronological Exactness, productive of extensive historical Knowledge, in a narrow Compass, conveyed in a very elegant and perspicuous Stile; and which do our Country so much true and deserved Honour, remain only an unrewarded Proof of their Author's great Merit, Candor, and Abilities.)

How our Neighbours came to call us *wauld Ayrish*, I am at a loss to conjecture; it being evident, we have been a thousand Years at least, in Possession of Letters, Laws, and Civility, before the Arrival of *Julius Caesar*, in *Britain*.

I am equally at a Loss to know, why a Man should become a standing Test for his Ignorance, in an alien Tongue, almost the constant Fate of our Country Men in *Britain*, where, whoever is not smartly expert in the *English* Language, is immediately denominated a *Teague*, a *Paddy*, or I know not what, in the Stile of Derision? at the same Time that the most awkward-tongued *Irishman* in *London*, speaks *English*, with far more Propriety, and a better Accent, than the smartest *British Petit Maître* in *Paris* doth *French*.

Some dramatick Scriblers, (probably of our own degenerate Growth,) the better to qualify them for eleemosynary Dinners, gave Rise to this impertinent Treatment of a Nation, which, from the concurrent Testimonies of all the Dispassionate and Learned, can, in Reality, be as little the Object of Scurrility, as any other.

Why should even poor *Teague*, prove so constant a Butt, to Farce-wrights, and Hackney Laughters; when, upon Examination he is, by a thousand Degrees, preferable to the *British Hobbino*, or *French Gre-*

goire ? For *Teague* is a very Pattern of Hospitality ; so much so, that if a Gentleman should happen to miss his Road, and be necessitated to seek the Shelter of *Teague's* Cabbin, or Hut ; was poor *Teague* trusting to two Sheep for his worldly Substance, he would kill one and sell the other, at the next Village or Inn, for the better Entertainment of his Guest, and think himself happy in such an Occasion of approving his Generosity and Respect ; He would the next Morning abandon his Spade, and chearfully trot ten Miles to shew such bewilder'd Gentleman the right Road. He is naturally civil, generous, and hospitable, (for scarce a Night passeth that poor Travellers are not entertained in his Cottage,) extremely respectful to his Superiors, and to his Lord and Master faithful to Death. The military Annals of *Europe* proclaim his Capacity, and Taste for Fighting ; then if you should take this identical *Teague's* infant Son, and give him a regular liberal Education, it is one hundred to one, but he turns out a Gentleman of Merit, Learning, Worth, and Politeness ; whereas it would certainly require more than *Herculean* Labour, to chissel a *French Paisan*, a primitive *Westmoreland*, or *Devonshire* Boor, not only into the Form of an elegant, but even into that of a sociable Creature.

Queer Scriblers, and petulant Scoffers, never go to the Bottom of Things ; Whoever proves deficient in little Arts, and exterior Accomplishments in their superficial Commerce, is a Bankrupt. In short, Ignorance in a Language, and the Tongue-tipp'd Articulation thereof, (which with all the borrowed Ornaments and studied Harmony given to it by *Dryden*, *Addison*, *Swift*, *Tickel*, *Pope*, *Glover*, and *Bolingbrooke*, is still much inferior to others,) with your Witlings, your Fribbles, and Smarts, seem an actual Absence of every other good Quality. The Insignificancy of those Jesters and Spatterers, will more clearly appear, if we look back to the wise, free and truly Parliamentary Constitution of this Kingdom ; if we recollect the vast Length of it's Duration, as a free and independent

pendant State; the military Prowess of its Inhabitants in all Ages; their victorious Conflicts with the *Romans*, and with the *French* under *Henry* the 5th, and the *Black Prince*; their having founded a Monarchy in *North Britain*, whence by a Right of Descent, in Addition to every other, his present Majesty, (whom God long preserve,) by the special Providence and infinite Mercy of Heaven, ruleth over us: If we consider the Number of our Universities, Colleges, and Academies, religious Monasteries and pious Seminaries, resorted to from all civilized Parts of *Europe*, our Metropolitcal and Diocesan Cathedrals; on such impartial Review, surely, the foregoing Tribe of Sneerers and Flouters must dwindle into deserved Contempt.

Having in a former Page mentioned the Founding of the Cathedral of *Armagh*, by *St. Patrick*, I now proceed to some Account of others: *Christ-Church*, originally dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was erected by *Sitricus*, Son of *Anclave*, King of the *Ostmen* of *Dublin*, and *Donat*, Bishop of *Dublin*, for secular Canons, in the Middle of the City, about the Year 1038; but *Lawrence*, Arch-Bishop of *Dublin*, changed these secular Canons, into Canons regular of the Order of *Arras*, about the Year 1163.

The *Arroasian* Canons were a peculiar Congregation of regular Canons of *St. Augustin*, called so from an Abby in the Diocese of *Arras*, in *Flanders*, which was the Head of this Congregation. This Order is now extinct, having been united to the great Order of regular Canons, as *Pennotus* observes in his tripartite History, where the other Cathedral called *St. Patrick's* is erected. *John Comyn*, Arch-Bishop of *Dublin*, demolished an old Parochial Church, (which stood in that Place, and is said to have been founded by *St. Patrick*;) and in the Room of it built and endowed this fair Church, dedicated to that Saint, in the South Suburbs of the City, about the Year 1190; in which he placed thirteen Prebendaries, which Number in after Times, encreased to twenty two, of whom

whom three were added by Arch-Bishop *Ferings*, *Henry Loundres*, or the *Londoner*, Arch-Bishop *Coomyn's* next Successor, erected this Church, which was collegiate in it's first Institution, into a Cathedral, united (says *John Allan*, who was Arch-Bishop of *Dublin*, in the Reign of *Henry* the 8th,) with the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in one Spouse, saving to the other Church the Prerogative of Honour, &c.

St. Tarlath, the Son of *Loga*, is looked upon as the first Founder of the Cathedral of *Tuam*, antiently called *Tuaim-da-Gualand*; which Church was afterwards dedicated to his Memory, and called *Tempull Tarlaith*, or *Tarlath's Church*; and the Time of the Foundation is placed about the Beginning of the 6th Century. Some Ages after the Death of this Prelate, viz. about the Year 1152, this Cathedral was by the Aid and Assistance of *Tirdelvac O Connor*, King of *Ireland*, new-built by *Edan-O-Hoism*, first Arch-Bishop of *Tuam*, at least the first who had the Use of the *Pall*: For some of his Predecessors are sometimes called Bishops of *Conaught*, and sometimes Arch-Bishops, by the *Irish* Historians, although they were not invested with the *Pall*. But the Successors of *Edan* built a new Choir, and afterwards converted this Church into the Nave, or Body of the Cathedral; and among them, *Thomas O Connor*, mentioned as one who was very munificent to this Church. This great Family was remarkable for adding to the rest of their happy Qualifications, a constant Exertion of religious Piety and Zeal.

The College of Vicars Choral of *Cashel*, consisted originally of eight Vicars and Choristers, besides an Organist, a Sexton, and a Purveyor, or Steward of the College.

The Vicars Choral, and the Organist, had an Annuity of five Pounds Sterling each, and the said College had then half a Capel of Land (called by the antient Rolls, *Thurles Beg*;) on the North Side of the River *Suir*, since known by the Name of *Baon*, or *Baon*

Baon Thurles Beg; but now there are only five Vicars, who are nominated by the five Dignitaries, and are instituted by the Dean. They were formerly composed of Clergy and Laity; but are now all of the Clergy.

Cormac, King and Bishop of *Cashel*, is reported to have been, if not the Founder, at least the Restorer of the Bishoprick of *Cashel*, (which bears the Name of *St. Patrick*, as consecrated to his Honour,) and it is past Doubt that we have very few Traces left of the Bishops of *Cashel*, before his Time. The Annals of the Priory of *All-Saints* inform us, that the Church, after the Restoration of it, was solemnly consecrated, and a Synod held in it in the Year 1134. But *Donald O'Brien*, King of *Limerick*, built a new Church there, from the Foundation, about the Time of the Arrival of the *English*, in the Reign of King *Henry* the 2d; which he endowed with Lands, and converted *Cormac's* old Church into a Chapel, or Chapter-House, on the South-Side of the Choir; he also made large Grants of Land to the See of *Cashel*, which his Son *Donough* afterwards enlarged by other Grants in *Tbuomond*; and among other Benefactions, he endowed it with two fair Islands, called *Sulleith*, and *Kisnacayl*. Such the Zeal, such the Piety of our ancient Kings!

Emly being antiently the metropolitical See of *Munster*, *Cashel* remained under its Jurisdiction, till the Time of *Cormac Mc. Cullinane*, a Descendant of *Angus*, King of *Cashel*, converted to the Christian Religion by the Sermons of *St. Patrick*. *Cormac* began his Reign A. D. 901, and at the same Time exercised the Function of Bishop of *Cashel*: He was Author of our most authentick Annals, called the Psalter of *Cashel*. The *Irish* Historians do, in many Instances, shew that Royalty and Episcopacy, were frequently united in the same Person, in those early Ages of Christian Purity, particularly among the Ancestors of *Cormac*; of whom *Olcobar*, who died in 857, and *Cen-*
felad,

felad, who died in 872, were both Kings of *Casbel*, and Bishops of *Emly*: Neither was this awful Custom among the *Irish* without Precedent in other Countries: For among the *Jews*, *Jonathan*, *Simon*, and *John Hircanus*, enjoyed, at one and the same Time; both the Civil and Pontifical Government: And those among them, who wore the Royal Diadem, as *Aristobulus*, *Alexander Jannæus*, and others, were at once not only Princes, but High Priests. To mention the antient *Heathens*: The *Roman* Emperors were at the same Time Emperors and High Priests; and among Kings, *Anius*, King of *Delos*; of whom *Virgil*,

Rex Anius, Rex idem Hominum; Phœbique Sacerdos.
Anius, both King of Men, and Priest of *Phœbus*.

And *Ovid*—

Hunc Anius, quo Rege Homines; Antistite Phœbus
Ritè colebatur, Temploque Domogus recepit.

Here pious *Anius*, Priest and Monarch, reign'd;
 And either Charge, with equal Care, sustain'd;
 His Subjects rul'd, to *Phœbus* Homage pay'd,
 His God obeying, and by those obey'd;
 The Priest unfolds his hospitable Gate,
 And shews the Riches of his Church and State.

So also *Mercurius Trismegistus*, or *Ter Maximus*, thrice Great; who (if we may give Credit to *Alexander ab Alexandro*,) took that Name from hence; that he was a great Philosopher, a great Priest, and a great King. The Reader may find more to this Purpose in *Plato's* *Politicks*. Among the *Mahometans* also, their Prince retained the Character of chief Pontiff of their Religion, as well as the regal Title. For *Mahomet* in the 7th *Hegira*, (A. D. 628), having established himself in an absolute Authority, at *Medina*, took on him all the Ensigns belonging thereto; but so, that he still retained the sacred Character of Prophet, or chief Pontiff of his Religion; which consisted in expounding

pounding the Law, in ordering all religious Matters, and in praying and preaching in Mosques, on all solemn Occasions. This double Character of Prince and Priest, he transmitted to his Successors; who, under the Title of *Caliphs*, (which Word signifieth both Prince and Priest,) reigned after him, like the Instances of the *Maccabees*; until at length they lost both their Name and Authority, when the *Tartars* over-run all the East; ever since which Time the *Mahometan* Princes have a particular Officer appointed in their respective Dominions, who retains the sacred Authority of *Caliph*, or chief Priest, and in *Turkey* is called *Musti*; but in *Persia*, the *Sadre*: We need not go far for Instances of this Sort. The King of *England* enjoyeth both spiritual and temporal Jurisdiction, and in the Law Books, is called *Persona mixta cum Sacerdote*, a Priest, as well as a King. At his Coronation, he is anointed with Oyl, as the Priests at first, and afterwards the Kings of *Israel* were; to intimate that his Person is spiritual and sacred, and hath the sacerdotal Garment, called the *Dalmatica*, or *Colobium*, put on him. Before the Reformation of *England*, when the Cup was denied to the Laity, the King as a spiritual Person, received in both Kinds. By the Act of Supremacy, the Kings of *England* are declared to be invested with all spiritual, as well as temporal Jurisdiction; and Power by the antient Laws to visit, reform, and correct all Abuses and Enormities in the Church: And by the Statutes made in the Reign of King *Henry* the 8th, that Monarch was only restored and remitted to his antient Jurisdiction, which the Popes of *Rome* had intruded on. The Law Books are full of this spiritual Power of the King. *Reges, sacro oleo uncti, spiritualis jurisdictionis sunt capaces*; and by the common Law, the King was capable of having Tythes, in *Pernancy*, which no lay Person could have had. He may visit his free Chapels and Hospitals: In the Canon Law it was the same; out of which *Cassaneus* cites two Texts to

the Purpose. (viz.) *Quod omnes Reges dicuntur Clerici,* and *quod Causa spiritualis committi potest Principi Laico.*

At this Day, the King of *Great Britain*, continues, with his other Titles, to use that of Defender of the Faith : * The Queen of *Hungary* hath lately been invested by the Pope, with the Title of *Apostolick Majesty* : The King of *France* is stiled, *His Most Christian* : Of *Spain*, *Catholick* : Of *Portugal*, *Faithful Majesty* ; to shew their just Reverence to spiritual, as well as temporal Authority.

I have dwelt the longer on this Subject, and deduced the Matter the more fully, to shew how important, and truly respectable the sacerdotal Character hath been in all Ages, in all Countries, and in all Persuasions; however distant, different or opposite in other Respects; thereby to induce those vivacious, but uninformed young Folks, (who, in their Scenes of Mirth and Raillery, affect to talk irreverently of the Clergy,) to a more polite and rational Demeanour towards Characters, respected and honoured in all Times, by the Great, the Good, and the Wise.

Priesthood rendered Royalty venerable; and Majesty, on the other Hand, added Dignity and Weight to the pastoral Office.

How truly great must that Monarch have been, who, in his spiritual Capacity, formed the Morals of his People to Purity and true religious Worship; and in his temporal, governed them with Prudence, Justice, and Humanity, by wise and wholesome Laws.

Men might have filled the Trump of Fame; might have over-run and subdued whole Continents; might have laid Nations waste by Fire and Sword, thro' military Discipline, and superior Skill in Arms; might have been recorded by Historians, and celebrated by Poets; applauded by Orators; and admired by the dazzled Majority of Mankind, altho' not Heroes: Since, to the Reality of this Character, religious Virtue is ab-

* A Title granted to King *Henry* the VIII. by the Pope, on account of his learned Writings, against *Martin Luther*.

olutely essential; a Truth, *Virgil*, one of the greatest and best accomplished Epic Poets, that ever appeared, was so sensible of, that he chose it for the most shining and distinguishing Attribute of his Hero:

*Musa mihi Causas memora, quæ Numine læso
Quidvis dolens Regina Deum, tot volvere Casus
Insignem Pietate Virum.*

The Beauty of *Æneas*, his Address at Arms, his Valour, Accomplishments, &c. were all secondary Qualifications; but his Piety, the constitutive Principle of his Heroism: So much, that, when he finds it necessary for him to declare, with a solemn Kind of Pride, who he was; he doth not mention his being a Prince, Goddess-born, or a Leader of Armies; but refers directly to his religious Disposition: *Sum pius Æneas*, &c. Again, in endeavouring to animate his desponding Followers, to a Confidence in God, he urges as his chief Argument of Persuasion;

*O Socii, neque enim ignari sumus antè Malorum,
O Passi graviora! dabit Deus his quoque finem.*

Let us also consider the Ideas of that great Orator and Philosopher *Tully*, in his admired Oration, about the Answer of the *Aruspices*, referring the vast Growth, extensive Grandeur, and surprizing Prowess of the Roman People, to their true and only Source: *Quam volumus Patres conscripti, nos amemus; tamen nec Numero Hispanos; nec Robore Gallos; nec Calliditate Pænos; nec Artibus Græcos; nec denique hoc ipso hujus Gentis et Terræ domestico nativoque Sensu, Italos ipsos et Latinos: sed Pietate ac Religione, atque hac una Sapientia, quod Deorum immortalium Numine, omnia regi gubernarique perspeximus, omnes Gentes Nationesque superavimus.*

When such were the Sentiments of Men, undorned with the heavenly Lights of the Gospel; how much more elevated, more sublime, and glorious ought those be of the Christian Hero and Leader?

Meer Conquerors, stimulated by the Lust of Power, wild Ambition, Revenge or Avarice, (but unattentive to the ways of Heaven, and the salutary Maxims of Religion,) have ever been Visitations, or Instruments of God's Wrath, against rebellious Man; not Blessings, or Heroes. To erect Churches and Cities; to plant, cultivate, and improve the Land; to nurture Science; cherish Art; encourage Industry; reward Invention; promote Manufactures; extend Commerce; and, above all; to establish true religious Worship; are the benign Offices of an Angel: To scatter Terror and Desolation, far and wide, with profuse Hands; to waste Countries; thin Mankind; prostrate Cities, and wrap the Growth of Ages, the glorious Labours of the Divine, the Lawgiver, the Philosopher, the Historian, the Orator, the Poet, the Architect, the Painter, the Sculptor, and the Musician, in one undistinguished fatal Blaze; the impious, the ruinous Devastations of a Dæmon!

Having shewn the Estimation, in which *Cicero* held Religion, with the great and glorious Effects he attributed to the Efficacy thereof: Let us now behold *Pliny* the younger, the most refined Wit, as well as the most powerful Orator of the Time he lived in, soliciting the Priesthood of the great Emperor *Trajan*: So valuable, so honourable, even among Heathens, was the priestly Office.

PLINIUS TRAJANO.

Cum sciam, Domine, ad testimonium laudemque Morum meorum pertinere tam boni Principis judicio exornari, Rogo, Dignitati, ad quam me provexit Indulgentia tua, vel Anguratum, vel Septem Viratum, quia vacant, ad-jicere digneris; ut jure sacerdotii precari Deos pro te publicè possim, quos nunc precor pietate privata.

I have exhibited those various Instances of Ethnical Piety, merely to animate my Christian Readers, who proceed on the solid and noble Foundation of revealed Religion, (the others informed by the Light of

of Nature only,) to those sacred and important Duties, which truly dignifie Mankind: Duties that formerly governed, in a peculiar Degree, the Conduct and Actions of the Chieftains of this Land. To produce, among a vast Number, a few Specimens of a national Disposition, so truly laudable, and worthy the Imitation of the Great and Powerful. *Donald O'Brien*, King of *Limerick*, founded and endowed the Cathedral of *Limerick*, and dedicated it to the blessed Virgin *Mary*; but it was much enlarged by *Donat O'Brien*, Bishop of this See, a Person eminent for Descent, being of the Blood Royal, but more truly esteemable for his great Piety. For, tho' illustrious by Birth, yet was he more truly so, as Sir *James Ware* observes, for his Zeal, Learning, Wisdom, and Liberality: He died in 1207, as did *Marian O'Brien* Arch-Bishop of *Cashel*, in 1238, who was a great Prelate. He on the 6th of *May* 1224, obtained of Pope *Honorius* the third, a Confirmation of twelve Canons in the Cathedral of *Cashel*; and from King *Henry* the 3d, a perpetual Grant to him and his Heirs of the new Town of *Cashel*, in free and pure Alms, discharged of all Exactions and secular Services. This Charter is witnessed by *Jocelin*, Bishop of *Bath*, *Thomas* Bishop of *Norwich*, and *Walter* Bishop of *Carlisle*; and bears Date the 15th of *November* 1228, in the 13th Year of the Reign of *Henry* the 3d. *Marian*, soon after either granted or confirmed this Town to a Provost and twelve Burgeses; reserving some small Pensions to his See, viz. out of the Town, six Pounds; and out of the Hundred and Courts, 13s. and 4d, excepting out of the said Grant, the Bake House and Shambles; a clear Demonstration of that great Prelates having preferred the Interest of the Community to his own. *Charles Mc. O'Brien* was promoted to the See of *Emly*, in 1498. He was a Man of eminent Piety and extensive Learning.

In Sir *James Ware's* Account of the See of *Killaloe*, he observes, that among the Benefactors to this See,

(next

(next to King *Theodorick*,) was principally reckoned *Moriertach O Brien*, King of *Ireland*, who died on the 8th of *March* 1120, and pursuant to his Commands when living, was buried there, "Nor ought we, says he, to pass over unmentioned *Donald O Brien*, King of *Limerick*, who was of the same Family, and much celebrated by Historians, not only for his Bounty and Liberality to this Church ; but also to many others." The Church of *Killaloe* was antiently much resorted to, in Pilgrimage, of which there are many Instances ; among others, *Connor Mac Dermod O Brien*, King of *Thomond* and *Desmond*, died at *Killaloe*, in Pilgrimage, in the Year 1142 : *Donat O Brien* died Bishop of *Killaloe*, in 1165. *Constantine O Brien*, a Prelate, descended from the Royal Family of the *O Briens*, was, among other Bishops, sent out of *Ireland*, to the *Lateran* Council, at which he assisted in 1179, while he governed this See.* *Donat O Brien*, King of *Limerick*, was a liberal Benefactor to it. *Terence O Brien* was Bishop of the same See, in 1460. The second *Terence O Brien*, was Bishop of *Killaloe*, in 1482, and died in 1525. He was educated at *Oxford*, and was a Prelate of great Account among his People, for Liberality and Hospitality ; but more addicted to military Affairs, than squared with the serene Solemnity of the episcopal Function. The third *Terence O Brien* obtained this Bishoprick, in the Reign of Queen *Mary*, and governed it until the End of the Year 1566, with singular Humanity and Diligence. *Maurice*, or *Moriertach O Brien Arra*, was appointed Bishop of *Killaloe*, by Queen *Elizabeth*, by Letters Patent, dated the 15th of *May* 1570, and had his Writ of Restitution to the Temporalities, the same Day. He received the Profits of this See six Years before his Consecration ; but being at last consecrated, he sat about thirty six Years after : He died on the last of *April*, and was a Prelate of sublime Talents, and unwearied Zeal. *Maurice*, or rather *Morrogh O Brien*, was appointed Bishop of *Kilsenoragh*, by King

Ed-

* Vide *Wars*, and others.

Edward the 1st, in 1303, and sate eighteen Years. He was a Prelate of great Zeal, Learning, and Humility. *Morrogh O'Brien*, Canon of *Killaloe*, a Prelate of noble Birth, both by Father and Mother, succeeded to the See of *Kilfenoragh*, by papal Provision, in 1491. He was a learned Divine and an hospitable Prelate.

Certain it is, that, if having produced a Number of religious Heroick Princes, learned exemplary Prelates, resolute successful Leaders, and steady inflexible Patriots, be sufficient to render a Name great, and a Race of People highly respectable; few Families, antient or modern, are more justly entitled to Consideration and Esteem, than that of *O'Brien*: They have ruled the People with Tenderness and Justice; they ordained wholesome Laws, and wise Institutions. They erected and endowed Cathedrals and Churches, with munificent Zeal; they defeated to Extirpation the most cruel and barbarous Enemies, that ever infested this, or any other Nation; and, as for their Character in the military Way, the Houses of *Inchiquin*, *Clare*, and *Lime'neagh*, now *Dromoland*, have through a Series of Ages, established this, in most Parts of the known World, beyond the Reach of Contradiction, or Obloquy. Our celebrated Countryman, the learned and tuneful Doctor *Mc. En Crow*, hath the following spirited Invocation, in his Panegyrick on *Daniel*, Lord Viscount *Clare*, who fell at the memorable Battle of *Hockstet*.

*Nunc Nunc, Ormonides aptate in Prælia Tubas,
Fundite sanguineum spirantia Carmina Martem,
Brieniden canimus.*—

I most heartily wish my Capacity equal to my Inclination, of commemorating the other great Names of Ireland; *O'Neil*, *O'Connor*, *McCarthy*, *O'Donnel*, *O'Reilly*, *McDonnell*, *McGwire*, *O'Hara*, &c. &c. &c.; (what we have Reason to hope, may be soon effected, in an historical authentick Way:) In the *Interim*, my personal Obligations to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Inchiquin* engage those summary Remarks on the

the antient House of O'Brien. Some young Gentlemen of this worthy Nobleman's Family and Name, now beginning to appear on the Stage of Life, as they inherit the Virtues of their Ancestors, and will a considerable Portion of their Property, will, it is hoped, contribute, in a great Measure, to revive the Splendor of that once illustrious, and still justly dignified Race.

I shall close this feeble Attempt on the antient state of Ireland, with the Description thereof by Donat, Bishop of Fesulæ, near Florence, in the 7th or 8th Century; referring, at the same Time, to the most authentick British Antiquaries, Camden, Giraldus Cambrensis, Buchanan, Ware, &c. for Confirmation of what hath been previously observed on the same Subject.

*Finibus Occiduis describitur optima Tellus,
 Nomine et Antiquis SCOTIA scripta Libris—
 Insula dives Opum, Gemmarum, Vestis et Auri,
 Commoda Corporibus, Aere sole Solo;
 Melle fluit pulchris et lacteis SCOTIA Campis
 Vestibus atque Armis, frugibus, arte viris.
 Urforum Rabies nulla est ibi; s' va Leonum
 Semina, nec unquam SCOTICA Terra tulit
 Nulla Venena nocent, nec Serpens serpit in Herba,
 Nec conquesta canit Garula Rana Lacu;
 In qua SCOTORUM Gentes habitare merentur
 Inclita Gens Hominum Milite, Pace, Fide.*

Thus Englished by the Ingenious and Reverend Mr.
 Dunkin:

“ Far Westward, lies an Isle of ancient Fame,
 “ By Nature blest'd, and SCOTIA is her Name;
 “ Enroll'd in Books: Exhaustless is her Store
 “ Of veiny Silver, and of Golden Ore:
 “ Her fruitful Soil for ever teems with Wealth,
 “ With Gems her Waters, and her Air with Health:
 “ Her

- " Her verdant Fields with Milk and Honey flow ;
- " Her woolly Fleeces vie with Virgin Snow :
- " Her waving Furrows float with bearded Corn ,
- " And Arms and Arts her envy'd Sons adorn.
- " No savage Bear, with lawless Fury, roves ;
- " No rav'nous Lion thro' her peaceful Groves ;
- " No Poison there infects ; no scaly Snake
- " Creeps thro' the Grass, nor Frog annoys the Lake :
- " An Island worthy of it's pious Race,
- " In War triumphant, and unmatch'd in Peace.

This *Donat*, Bishop of *Fesula*, was an *Irishman*, of the antient and hospitable Family, afterwards *O Hogan* ; a Family which held ample and fair Possessions in the Province of *Munster*, and which, in former Times, adorned the See of *Killaloe* with four very learned and exemplary Prelates ; namely, with *Matthew O Hogan*, who succeeded to this Bishoprick, in the Reign of *Henry the 3d*, and in the Year of our Lord 1267 ; and who, having much enlarged his Diocese, and done many signal Acts of popular Charity, died in the Year, 1281, and was buried in *Limerick*, in a Convent of *Dominican* Friars. To this Bishop succeeded *Maurice O Hogan*, who governed this See with peculiar Zeal and Charity, upwards of sixteen Years, and died in 1298, or the Year following, and was buried in his own Church. *Thomas O Hogan*, Canon of *Killaloe*, was consecrated in 1343, and died on the 30th of *October*, 1354 ; five Days after which, he was buried among his worthy Ancestors at *Nenagh* ; as may be seen in the *Annals* of that Place.

Richard O Hogan succeeded to the See of *Killaloe*, in 1525, and was in 1539 translated to *Glen Mac Nois* : He was a Prelate of great Learning and Capacity, in all spiritual and ecclesiastical Matters.

This antient Family is, at this Time, represented by *Edmund O Hogan*, Esq; High-Sheriff of the County of *Clare*, a Gentleman, who, by the whole Tenor

of his Life, hath proved Generosity of Heart, Charity, and Hospitality, to be Qualities inherent.

Some petty modern Sneerers, and pretending Humourists, conscious of their native Obscurity, affect to treat ANTIQUITY OF DESCENT in a sciering Way, as Matter rather of *Ridicule* than *Respect*: But let such recollect, that, so soon as our first Parent had two Sons, grown up to Man's Estate, one of them shewed a fatal Degeneracy: Let them recollect, that one of the three Sons of *Noah* shewed Irreverence to his Parent; which drew on him and his Seed, the parental *Anathema*, or Curse: Let them remember, that, of all the Nations of Mankind, the great Creator chose the *Hebrews* for the Objects of his peculiar Government; and of those, *particular Tribes*, as the Objects of his peculiar Favour; and of those again, the *House of Aaron*, for the eminent Honour of the Priesthood; to shew that the Necessity of *Distinction* among Men proceeded directly from Heaven:

Horace, as polite an Author, of as bright an Age as the World ever saw, invokes (in the very first Line of his published Works) his Patron, by a just Allusion to his *Royal Descent*,

MECÆNAS, *Atavis Edite Regibus.*

Mecenas, sprung from Grandfire Kings.

Not to mention the almost infinite Deference between a *Sir Isaac Newton*, and the Tribe of judiciary astrological Philomaths; a *John*, Duke of *Marlborough*, and a Captain *Flash*; a *Tillotson*, and a *Swadling Canter*; a *Dean Swift*, and a Custard Corporation Bard; any civilized Man, and a Savage *Indian*: Do we not view, through all the Classes of the Brute, vegerable, and material Creation, visible Degrees of *different Excellence*; not only in different Kinds, but also in *each distinct Species*? Those Considerations may, at least *ought* to induce us, to set a superior Value on Gentlemen, to whom, among many, an *honourable Descent* seemeth not an *unessential* Qualification.

The

The Dominion of the House of *Plantagenet* lasted 331 Years; viz, from the Reign of *Henry* the 2d, in 1154, to that of *Henry* the 7th, (the first of the Race of *Tudor*,) in 1485. The better to apprehend the unhappy Condition of *Ireland*, under that inauspicious Domination, where my second Motto may be literally applied; let us take a short but general View of that Royal Family, almost the constant Prey of unbridled Ambition, and devoted Victims of outrageous Faction, from *Henry* of *Anjou*, to the bloody, impious, and unnatural *Richard*, who fell at *Bosworth*.

Dermot Mac Murchad, sovereign Prince of *Hy-Kinsellagh*, banished by *Roderick O Connor*, King of *Ireland*, for his various and high State Crimes, sought Sanctuary and Redress in the Court of *England*: where, in the absence of *Henry*, then in *Normandy*, diverse adventurous *Normans*, *Flemings*, *Saxons*, and old *Britons*, (being themselves unsettled, and unestablished) acceded to the Fate and Fortunes of *Dermot*, under the Conduct of *Strongbow*, Earl of *Pembroke*; whose casual Success in *Ireland*, against *Roderick* (owing more to the general Defection, at that fatal Period, of the *Irish* Chiefs against their lawful Sovereign, than to any superior Valour or Address of those Adventurers) induced *Henry* to a deliberate and grand Invasion of a Kingdom, to which he could lay no Claim on the Score of Nature, Reason, or Right, and whither his pretended Mission, on the Score of collecting *St. Peter's Dues*, (which *St. Peter* himself, never once thought of, or imagined) was as ridiculous as groundless. The *Summa Dies*, however, arrived: and the People of *Ireland*, wearied out with intestine Strife, acknowledge *Henry* for their Sovereign Lord; and a grand Charter of Rights and Covenants, mutual Protection and Allegiance was entered into, anteriorly to that of *England*. How well this Charter was observed on the protective Side, the absolute Anarchy of near four Centuries, from its original Date and Perfection, to the Reign of *Queen Elizabeth*, de-

monstrates : A whole Nation, that sought Protection, and that *agreed* for quiet, regular, and lawful Government upon rational Terms, deprived of the Power of ordaining Laws for its own Security and Well-Being, and precluded (all to four or five great and favourite Families) from the Benefits and Advantages accruing from those of that Kingdom, to which it had voluntarily united itself ; exposed, through such a Length of Time, to arbitrary Depredations, and unpunished, unredressed, uncensured Rapine, *Quis talia fando temperet a Lacrymis!*

King *Henry* called back into *England*, to lay the Storms raised by his rebellious Sons, with whom and *Thomas Becket*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, he was so constantly embroiled to the End of his Life, that he could little attend to the Settlement of the Affairs of this his new acquired Sovereignty.

Richard the first, his immediate Successor, called away to the holy Wars against the *Saracens*, where he acquired much deserved Glory, (dying soon after his Return, by a Bow Shot from a Castle in *Normandy*.) had as little Leisure as his Predecessor to promote the Quiet, or Happiness of *Ireland*.

From the usurped Authority of King *John*, a continued Series of Papal Animosity, Bloodshed, Calamities and Pyracies, closed at last by Poyson ; little beside political Disasters of all Sorts, could be expected.

Henry the 3d, through a Reign of fifty-six Years, was continually involved in Troubles and Hostilities, with his inflexible *English* Barons, till he, a very short Time before his Death, confirmed the GREAT CHARTER granted by his Father.

Edward the first, a great and warlike Prince was, throughout his whole Reign, engaged in the Reduction of the *Welsh* and *Scots*, and so intent thereon, that he could turn his Thoughts to no other Object.

Edward the second, indeed, sent *Gaveston* hither, more to screen him from the implacable Resentments of

of the stubborn *English* Nobility, than to render any good Offices to the Inhabitants of this Country ; who, indiscriminately, (*Strongbowians* as well as *Irish*) felt the Severity of that insolent Favourite's Measures : But the miserable Catastrophe of that unfortunate Prince, dethroned and most barbarously murdered by the open Violence, and infernal Machinations of *Isabel*, his faithless, unrelenting Consort, challengeth more our Compassion, than Animadversions of any other Nature, on his Reign :

Edward the third, so surpassingly glorious by his own, and his Son, the renowned black Prince's Victories over the *French*, and his Queen's over the *Scots*, (she having made their King a Captive, at the same Time that her Son brought the King of *France* Prisoner to *London*, from that ever memorable Battle of *Poitiers*) shewed the World what Extremes human Nature is capable of, when Men suffer themselves to listen too attentively to the fatal, the delusive Voice of sensual Delight ! For *Edward*, the Terror of Tyrants, the Conqueror of Kingdoms, fell himself at length a Victim to the most abject, as well as enslaving of all Passions, and became the wretched, and, finally, the abandoned Conquest of a sordidly-avaritious, and scandalously audacious Woman, *Alice Pierce* ; to whose Covetousness and Pride, he entirely abandoned himself.

Richard the second, visited this Kingdom in Person, with the good Intentions of establishing Peace, Order, and Harmony, in a valuable but long neglected Estate : Yet his own adverse Fate, conspiring with that of this Land, called him back, before he could carry his favourable Resolutions into Execution, to defend his *English* Dominions from the hostile Attacks of *Henry*, Earl of *Hereford*, who, with the Duke of *Norfolk*, Son to *John* of *Gaunt*, had some Years before been banished by *Richard*, to prevent a personal Combat : This King, worthy more propitious Stars, long agitated and afflicted by the Turbulence
and

and irreconcilable Obstinacy of his *British* Subjects, perished at last (after the most manly and resolute Struggles for Self-defence,) under the impious unnatural Hands of Sir *Pierce* of *Exton*, who, at the Head of eight. barbarous armed Assassins, rushed into his Chamber, and, with matchless Cruelty, murdered him.

The Reign of *Henry* the fourth was short, tumultuous, and bloody; Deluges of noble Blood, unheard of in former Ages, having been shed by the base Hands of the common Executioner, to confirm a Throne acquired by abominable Crimes, and Violence! And no sooner had these dreadful Storms begun to abate, than *Henry* was forced to depart from a Scene he had more adorned, (for he was, without Question, a great and valiant Man) had not his Ambition blindly hurried him beyond the bounds of Justice and Nature.

Henry the fifth, his Son and Successor, and truly Inheritor of his Ambition and warlike Genius, imagining himself aggrieved by the *Salique Law*, which excluded his Great-Great-Grandmother, *Isabel*, from the Monarchy of *France*; turned his elevated Thoughts intirely to the Conquest of that Kingdom: Wherein, by his own vast Merit in martial Affairs, and the Co-operation of the Queen of *France*, (Consort of *Charles* the Sixth, then frantick,) and that of the Duke of *Burgundy*, a great and powerful Prince; he so far succeeded, as, after his Marriage with *Catherine de Valois*, Daughter of *Charles* the sixth, to be crowned, and acknowledged King of *France*. In this Prince's Wars, the *Irish* had the Honour of distinguishing themselves in an extraordinary Manner; the only Happiness they could reap from their Sovereign, who, (shortly after the Surrender of *Montreau*, the last Place of any Note, that held out for the Dolphin) crowned with Conquest, and covered with Laurels, submitted to his own Fate, which put a sudden End to his Life and Victories.

To this great and victorious Monarch succeeded *Henry* the

the sixth, who, not being of Age sufficient to undertake the arduous Task of Government, was committed to the Care of his Uncles, the Dukes of *Bedford* and *Gloucester*; the first, Regent of *France*; and the last, of *England*. From the Wisdom and Valour of those distinguished Heroes, *Bedford*, *Salisbury* and *Talbot*, the *English* Affairs in *France* continued for some Time in a prosperous Condition: Yet was this but a *transient* Dominion, to which many Incidents contributed; the Death of those great Men; that of *Charles* the fifth, the delirious King of *France*; the almost incredible Prowess of the Maid of *Orleans*; and the Weakness of *Henry*, by Nature better adapted to a Convent, than a Court. Hence a Period to the *English* Sway and Authority in *France*.

In *England*, *Henry*, through a long, various, and constantly clouded Reign, seemed the very Play of Fortune! this Day a King, the next a Prisoner! one Day acknowledged by his Parliament, the next attainted! one Day a Conqueror, and the next a Captive!

Fierce, frequent, and bloody, were the Conflicts between the Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, the *White* and *Red Roses*; the former endeavouring to recover its lost, the latter to maintain its usurped Authority. In this dreadful Quarrel perished two hundred thousand of private Soldiers; ten thousand of the Nobility, Gentry, and Persons of Distinction; three Kings; and, at last, the entire Race of *Plantagenet*: Such Havock doth Ambition make! Queen *Margaret*, the illustrious Consort of *Henry* the sixth, totally defeated in the Battle of *Tewksbury*, by *Edward*, Duke of *York*; and her Son, Prince *Edward*, barbarously massacred by his horrid Kinsman, *Richard* Duke of *Gloucester*, closed all the Hopes, as well as future Efforts, of the *Lancastrian* Line; Nor did King *Henry*, then confined to the Tower, long survive; being robbed of his Crown and Life, by the same cruel Instruments, and the same relentless Hands that shortly before robbed him of his only Son!

Edward the IV. though now seemingly riveted on his Throne, soon fell, either by his natural Intemperance, or rather by the insatiable Cruelty of *Gloucester*; who had already sacrificed his Brother *Clarence*, to pave his Way to that Throne, which alone could satisfy his ungovernable Pride. Nor better fared it with *Edward* the V. who, by all the Arts of Seduction and Delusion, which his unnatural Uncle and Guardian, *Richard*, practised on the Fears and Weakness of the Queen Dowager; was, with his Brother the Duke of *York*, conveyed with great Pomp to the Tower; where the bloody Tyrant, aided by the Duke of *Buckingham*, soon sacrificed those young, innocent and hopeful Princes to his wicked and boundless Ambition; who, from a Sense of his repeated excessive Crimes, and monstrous Enormities, agitated with unceasing Horrors, soon after lost his own flagitious Life, and a most cruelly-acquired Crown, on the Plains of *Bosworth*; leaving behind him but one Male, of the Royal House of *Plantagenet*, soon dispatched to quiet and secure the Possession of *Henry* the seventh, and the first of the Race of *Tudor*, a great, wise and valiant Prince, but rather too much inclined to Rigour, and Avarice; Imperfections which extremely blemished his other great Qualities.

In the tenth Year of this Reign, the Parliamentary Constitution of *Ireland* received a deeper Stab than had ever before or since been inflicted thereon, by a Statute Law, commonly called *Poyning's Act*; by which, a new, and, till that wretched Period, an unheard of Order was added to the three established Ranks of the State. By this Law, the *English* Privy-Council may impose a *Negative* on the free and unanimous Parliamentary Ordinances of the representative Body of the Kingdom of *Ireland*; a manifest Injury to the Authority and Dignity of Parliament; and an equal Diminution of the Royal Prerogative, that only should include, and should alone exert, a Power so important.

In Times dark, tumultuated and dangerous, no Wonder extraordinary Laws should pass: *Desperate Diseases* require *desperate Remedies*: But, when the *Fever* is removed, it certainly is horrid Management to leave the blistering Plaister *still sticking* to the *recovered Patient's Back*.

The Distempers of this Nation were heavy, complicated and chronic; and finally curable, only by the salutary all-healing Hands of our present King, and present Parliament.

To *Henry* the seventh, succeeded *Henry* the eighth, as consummate a Tyrant, in every Sense, as ever swayed the *British*, or any other Sceptre; whose whole Life was so continued a Scene of wanton Dissipation, Lust, Cruelty, Rapine, Bloodshed and Sacrilege, that it must have been a peculiar Happiness, to any Part of his Dominions, to have been *neglected* or *forgotten* by him: Nor could the two succeeding Reigns of *Edward* the sixth, and *Queen Mary*, short, various, cloudy, and vastly agitated on the Score of Religion, (which, in those two Reigns, took Faces almost diametrically opposite), afford this Kingdom much reflected Sunshine.

To those ensued that of *Queen Elizabeth*, a Princess of powerful Abilities, who, truly intent on the Peace and Welfare of her Subjects, caused her Laws to operate, and Justice to circulate in this Kingdom, abandoned, as hath been observed, to a State almost of Anarchy, thro' a dismal Series of seventeen Reigns: But the Reformation in Religion, which she established in *England*, and introduced in *Ireland*, much obviated her Purposes for the latter Kingdom: For, the *Irish*, more tenacious of their Altars, than of their Fire-places, could not easily reconcile themselves to the Exchange of a Religion they deemed a *new one*, for *that* they had been in Possession of from the fourth, to the fifteenth Century: Which produced a rebellious Defection, in a few of the principal Chieftains of this Land, and gave Occasion to the greedy

Provincial Presidents, of trumping up *imaginary Rebellions*, to pave the Way to *real Forfeitures*; thereby to aggrandize their own Houses; what some of them effectually accomplished, to the Ruin and Extirpation of many honest Families.

This great and illustrious Princess, (whose Reign had remained untarnished, had it not been for the Death of the ill-fated Queen of Scotland) was succeeded by James the 6th of Scotland, and the first of the Stuart Race, that governed England: From this Prince, descended of *Irish Kings*, the People of Ireland might have expected many Favours and Immunities; wherein, however, they were miserably disappointed: Which, with a Train of other Hardships and antiparental Severities; (particularly his alienating, at one Stroke, six of the best Counties in the Kingdom, on the procured Testimony of an obscure wretched Individual, one *Teige Lenane*,) is too sufficient and too lasting a Proof of: *Heu! tot Conquesta Annorum, hauserit una Dies!* The Possession of at least twenty Centuries, of the great and good, the heroic and hospitable O Neils, O Donnels, Mac Guires, Mac Gennises, O Reillys, O Cabanes, &c. ravished away to gratify hungry Favourites, and indigent Relatives! the six Counties, however, as the Law Term has it, *escheated*. Had the Highlands of Scotland, at that unhappy Period, been more populated, probably six or eight Counties more had been procured to *escheat*, and there had been a *braa Clutch of benny Traitors*; the O Connors, Mac Carthys, O Briens, O Donnels, O Haras, O Malones, &c. had been all in the same Bottom with the Families above mentioned; especially, as they could not, according to James the first's own Phrase, *look to the Pope, and row with him*.

To James the 6th of Scotland, and first of England, succeeded Charles the first; who, notwithstanding his eminent Possession of all the Virtues that adorn and illustrate human Nature, could neither divert the adverse Fate of his Subjects, or prevent his own: He fell,

fell, alas! and so torturing is the Idea of his Fall! so shocking the complex Image of those that, with unheard-of Wickedness, contrived it! so foul, so indelible a Blemish, is the Existence of such consummately unhallowed Wretches, to human Nature, even in its most unedified Conception; that it is with the utmost Reluctance, I even recollect the horrid Time and Circumstances of his unprecedented Catastrophe! It being neither my Business or Purpose to repeat Grievances, I choose to draw a Veil over the cruel Administration of Sir Oliver St. John, the Earl of Strafford, Sir William Parsons, and others.

The Disseisin of many honest Families in the County of *Kilkenny*, and elsewhere, by the said Earl, on stale Pretences of *Non Performance of Covenants* on their Part; his Attempt of confiscating twenty five Parts in thirty of the whole Province of *Connaught*, on a claim of Descent, dormant 300 Years, and *originally ill founded*, with the arbitrary Steps by him taken to the Accomplishment of this wasteful Purpose; too clearly proved that Nobleman a second *Verres*. The cruel and intoxicated Administration of the Rump Parliament; the insolent, licentious, and riotous Controul of the military *Independants*; the abject Tyranny of the nefarious *Oliver Cromwell*, who prostrated Constitution, Church and State, and closed the dismal Scene of complicated Guilt, by the Effusion of Royal Blood! will always be recollected with the Contempt, Horror, and Detestation of every good Man, and good Subject.

If Popery hath ever been formidable in this Land, at this happy Period it certainly *is not*: So that, according to the Judgment of one of our late, and unexceptionably greatest * Governors, *Poverty*, the *nearer Evil*, and of far the more pressing Nature, ought more cautiously to be guarded against.

* Earl of *Chesterfield*.

If the Pope of *Rome* should pretend to a Power of absolving the Subjects of any temporal Prince on Earth, from their natural Allegiance, confirmed by lawful Authority: In this he can produce no Charter from our Divine Lord and Master, whose Vicegerent he takes upon him to be; our Saviour having specially prescribed Obedience to the temporal Sovereign, though he should be a Foreigner, and required that those Things that were *Cæsar's*, should be yielded unto *Cæsar*; namely, all the Rights which appertained to his pre-eminent Magistracy: * It must give great Pleasure to every Well-wisher of this Kingdom, to find the *Roman Catholics* sensible of this important Truth; as appears by the very loyal Address, from those of *Corke*, presented to his Grace the Lord Lieutenant: Which it is hoped will be followed by the like from the several other Cities, and Counties throughout the Kingdom.

Political and temporary Evils, are properly remediable by adequate Means. Religious Errors are properly removeable, by Teaching, Preaching, Argument, and rational Persuasion: Such only, together with incontrovertible Miracles, were the Means our blessed Saviour and his Apostles used, in the Propagation, and spreading of the Christian Faith and Doctrine; who were so evidently averse to Violence, (it being clear that *wheresoever* Persecution existeth, *there* Christianity ceaseth); that the Apostle *St. Paul*, in his fourth Epistle to the *Ephesians*, ver. 31, and 32d, forbids the Application, even of reproachful Expressions; *Let all Bitterness, and Wrath, and Anger, and Glamour, and Evil-speaking, be put away from you, with all Malice, and be kind one to another,*

* To the Honour of the late Pope, indeed, he hath strongly recommended to his Clergy in *England*, in a Bull for that Purpose, to preach this salutary Doctrine. See *Principles of the Roman Catholics*. Publish'd by P. Lord.

tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's Sake, hath forgiven you.

Good God! how had he been shocked at Fines, Forfeitures, Penalties, Sequestrations, Confiscations, Persecution! Extirpation! Fire! Faggot! and Massacre! on the pretended Score of a Doctrine and Religion essentially and diametrically opposite to all, or any such dreadful, and often prohibited Measures!

The Calamities from 1641, to the happy Restoration of King Charles the second, in 1660, being common to all good Subjects, were the more tolerable, *ferre quam sortem patiuntur omnes, nemo recusat*: But now or never, surely, might his ever loyal, ever faithful *Irish* Subjects have, with the most reasonable Assurance, hoped, if not for publick and lasting Rewards, the common Wages of uncommon Fidelity; at least, for a Restitution of what had been their own, through Ages immemorial; and only wrested from them for that unshaken Loyalty, (which no private Interest could warp, or popular Dangers stagger) by those who pursued their great, good, and lawful Sovereign to the fatal Block, and cruelly hunted the Royal Family into Exile; wherein it was adorned by the peculiar zealous Allegiance, and, in some Respects, supported by the generous Efforts of those brave *Irish*, who disdained self-repining, while their Sovereign suffered.

Will late Posterity believe, that, in Favour of mercenary Adventurers, who advanced Money to provide for a desperate regicide Army; in Favour of the Officers of this same Army, whom their Ringleader *Cromwell*, seared as his Conscience was, indulged with no more than temporary Grants of the Estates belonging to the King's most faithful Subjects: Will Posterity, I say, believe, that, in special Favour of such Men, those identical Subjects, the bravest Advocates, as well as the most affectionate, undeviating Friends of the Monarchy and Constitution, were forever deprived of their Properties! to remunerate the
others,

others, the most inveterate and implacable Enemies of EITHER! *Doing Good for Evil* is a Divine Precept, and certainly includes a most sublime Moral; but *rendering Evil for Good*, is such a Principle as must carry Horror with it, among savage Nations!

The King of France his immediate Letter, on this Subject, to King Charles the 2d, as it reflects Honour on the Memory of those illustrious Sufferers, I therefore take Leave to transcribe in this Place.

His most Christian Majesty's Letter, to the King of Great-Britain, in Favour of the Roman Catholicks of Ireland.

“ Most High, most Excellent, and most potent
 “ Prince, our dear and well-beloved Brother
 “ and Cousin! At the same Time that we have
 “ been told of your Majesty's great Goodness to-
 “ wards your Subjects, and the Precedent you have
 “ given of an extraordinary Clemency, in granting
 “ them your general Amnesty, (some few only ex-
 “ cepted of those, whom the Blood of their King, and
 “ that of his People, cry aloud to Heaven for Revenge
 “ against.) We could not but let your Majesty
 “ know, that we were extremely surprized to hear,
 “ that the *Catholicks* of *Ireland* were *excluded* from
 “ that Act of Oblivion, and, by that Means, put
 “ into the Number of the *most criminal*! This News
 “ has so much the more excited our Compassion to-
 “ wards them, that we have been informed, that,
 “ in *all the Changes* which have hitherto happened in
 “ your Dominions, and in the almost general *Defection*
 “ of your Subjects; *none* stood *more constant* to their
 “ lawful Sovereign, even in the greatest Streights,
 “ than the *Catholicks*: So that, if they are now bran-
 “ ded for their Religion, it may be said, for their Ho-
 “ nour, that, in Times past, none could be found
 “ readier, or more *cheerfully disposed* than they, to
 “ serve

“ serve and assist their Prince; and that with so
“ much *Ardour*, that their Zeal then for the Royal
“ Family was reckoned a certain Mark of their true
“ Religion. It is for that Reason that we now be-
“ come their Intercessors to you : For, otherwise, had
“ they *failed* in the Fidelity they owe you ; instead
“ of interceding for them, we would join with you
“ in using them with all imaginable Rigour ; and
“ it would never come into our Thoughts to con-
“ cern ourselves, as we do, for the *Catholicks* of Ire-
“ land ; though we *were obliged to it*, by the last
“ Treaty of Peace made with the Marquess of Or-
“ mond, and which was granted them by our Media-
“ tion. And, as we are well assured, that, since the
“ Conclusion of that Peace, they have done Nothing
“ which can be called a *Failure of their Duty to you* ;
“ we find ourselves under so much the greater Oblig-
“ ation, to conjure you, to make good that Treaty
“ to them, in that they *religiously* observed it on *their*
“ Side, in all its Parts : And to beseech you not
“ to suffer, that either the Hatred, which an immo-
“ derate Zeal swells some bigotted Sectarists with,
“ nor the unlucky Spoils of these poor People, render
“ criminal or miserable the *most faithful* of your
“ Subjects ; to whom their lawful King, as you are,
“ is not *the less dear*, nor *less respected*, because of a
“ *different Belief* from *theirs*. We propose Nothing
“ to our selves in this, nor ask any Thing, but what
“ we daily *practise* (as you may know) towards those
“ of our Subjects, who are of the *reformed Religion*.
“ And, as we have commanded the Sieur Marquis
“ *de Rouvigny*, to explain our Sentiments more am-
“ ply on this Subject to you ; be pleased to give him
“ a favourable Audience : And, above all Things,
“ be perswaded, that, in this Affair, we have no
“ less your own *true Interest* in View, than what *na-*
“ *tural Reason* and *Equity* requires ; and that our sin-
“ cere Friendship for you is the principal Motive of
“ this

“ this Request. Dated at *Paris*, the 7th of *September*,
 “ 1660.”

The good King *Charles*, regardless of this important Solicitation, unattentive to the plain Suggestions of common Right, and unaccountably forgetful of all their past signal Services and inviolate Zeal; observed indeed that those faithful *Irish* Subjects had no Stock; consequently, that dispossessing the Adherents of *Oliver*, who, with the Land, had pirated the national Stock, would cause much Confusion. As for the former, he hoped some Settlement might in Time be found for them; (in Truth, I believe, for ought his Majesty in Reality concerned himself, this might have been in *Terra Australis Incognita*.) Their Want of Stock is the less to be admired at, it being well known, that, with their Pay in foreign Service, chiefly expended to contribute all in their Power to the Royal Support; they even went so far as to sell their Plate and valuable Moveables, to answer the same generous Purpose: But, when every known Acre in the Kingdom, that could be disposed of, was given away by Wholesale, to the Duke of *York*, the Heir apparent of the Crown, (partial Distribution!) to new-fangled Favourites, and the staunch old Enemies of Church and Crown; it was hoped some Lands might be yet discovered, to satisfy and compensate those *Irish* Worthies, who had Nothing left for their Support, beside an inalienable Sense of Honour and Loyalty, and a Character of invincible Fidelity (which all Nations admired and applauded.) No such Discovery, however, was made, nor any relative to the *Irish*, under that Administration; but what tended to convince them, by the famous Act of Settlement, &c. of the extraordinary severe Peculiarity of their Fate! Yet, ordained to shew Posterity unprecedented Specimens of Loyalty and Zeal, they still adhered, with inflexible Constancy, to the Fortunes of King *James the 2d*; not mindful of the Injuries by *James the First*, their unexampled Sufferings by the excessive harsh Measures

tures of King *Charles* the First, his Ministers, and Deputies, or their unheard-of Treatment (I won't say *Wrongs*, it being a Maxim the King of *England* can do none) by King *Charles* II. Little Wonder, a House, constantly sapping it's own best Pillars, should at length fall.

King *James* the Second, constrained to abdicate the Throne of *England*, endeavoured the Preservation of this his Kingdom of *Ireland*; where his faithful Subjects, (a Remnant of the various and manifold Wastes of foregoing Reigns,) considering the thousand Disadvantages they laboured under, made *such a Stand* as later Ages will look up to, with Astonishment! A Parcel of Men, congregated in the utmost Hurry and Confusion, undisciplin'd, unarmed, unclothed, unpaid! Yet did those very Men, animated by the Example of their heroick Leaders, (I mean their immediate Lords and Countrymen,) on the Plains of *Aughrim*, convince the best veteran Army that Day in *Europe*, superior in Numbers, excellently provided for in every Respect, and conducted by a Prince of singular Valour and Address; that *Irishmen* were deserving of more auspicious Stars.

Never was a more gallant Defence than they, after this, made in *Limerick*; where, although abandoned by the Prince, (whose Cause they had so remarkably espoused,) and his auxiliary *French*, they obtained an honourable CAPITULATION from those in Commission under King *William* the third, whose strict *Observance* thereof, to the End of his glorious Life, reflects, among many other his great Achievements, deserved Honour on his Memory.

The distinguished Figure made by those Noblemen and Gentlemen, who, regardless of *Property* or *Ease*, followed the Destiny of that hard-fated Prince, King *James* the second (namely; the Lords *Mount-Casbel*, *Tyrconnel*, *Clare* and *Lucan*, the *Dillons*, *Nugents*, *Rooths*, *Burkes*, *Lees*, *Fitz-Geralds*, *Cooks*, *Lacys*, *Browns*, *Wogans*, *Baggots*, *Sheridans*,
H Creaghs,

Creaghs, Plunkets, Barnewals, Neagles, Lallys, Mac Carthys, Mac Donnels, Mac Guires, Mac Namaras, Mac Mahons, Mac Gennis's, O Neils, O Connors, O Donnels, O Briens, O Dwyers, O Shoghnuffys, O Mahonys, O Sullivans, O Kellys, O Ferralls, O Reillys, O Haras, O Hogans, O Byrnes, O Daes, &c. &c. &c.) the military Annals of *Germany, France, Spain, Flanders, Italy, Naples, and Russia*, must bear ample and authentic Testimony of, to future Ages.

Those were they, of whom Doctor *Mac En Crow*, gives the following concise, but just and happy Character.

*Genus acre Bello, Studiis Genus acre Minervæ,
Devotumque mori pro Rege, Fidēque tuendis.*

Among those who followed the Fortunes of King *James* the second, were Sir *Richard Neagle*, his Attorney General, and Doctor *Moore*, Provost of Trinity College, near *Dublin*; two Gentlemen very justly distinguished in their respective Spheres; the former, a Gentleman of unshaken Integrity, and great Capacity in the Profession of the Laws; the latter, of exemplary Piety, universal Learning, and fine Accomplishments. *Louis* the fourteenth, then King of *France*, protected those worthy deserving Men, with singular Tenderneſs and Attention; and was instructed and guided solely by Doctor *Moore*, in the restoring, establishing, and modelling the University of *Paris*, at that gloomy Period! quite buried in perplexed, unintelligible, peripatetic Philosophy, and disfigured with romantic Legends, and Gothic Jingle! But, at the Doctor's Appearance, Entities, Quiddities, Sympathies, Antipathies, occult Qualities, substantial Forms, metaphysical Degrees, Categories, and all this unideal wordy Stuff, vanished; and were succeeded by a clear, concise method of Reasoning, and sound, useful, and experimental Philosophy. *Greek, Hebrew, Syriac, Chaldiac, and Arabic*, were Languages

Languages *untaught, unknown*, in the University of *Paris*, before Doctor *Moore*; for whom particularly, *Louis*, the fourteenth founded, established, and endowed the Royal College, now call'd *College du Cambray*: And how well our Doctor succeeded therein, may be inferred from the Character and Writings of his Pupils and Hearers, *Boileau, Fontinel'e, Poréc, Montesquieu, Fleuri, Languet*, with many others, and *Rollin*, his peculiar Favourite and immediate Successor, all great Geniuses, applauded Writers, and celebrated Wits. So that, as *Ireland* had the Honour of founding, it had also that of restoring and reviving the great University of *Paris*, in the Persons of two of its learned Natives.

The Reign of her Majesty Queen *Anne*, (glorious to her Arms, under the Conduct of *John*, Duke of *Marlborough*, and her other Generals, and justly distinguished by the Number of great Genius's and Wits, who enlightened that Period) was in this Kingdom, chiefly employed in *additional* Acts against the further Growth of Popery: And many there were, who deemed it an unparallel'd Severity in her Majesty, to give her Royal Assent to them particular Laws; by which the *Roman Catholics* of *Ireland*, (already ruined by their inimitable Allegiance to her Royal Father, Uncle, and Grandfather,) were *precluded* from availing themselves, by a tolerable easie Lease, of any Part or Parcel of these Estates, forfeited by their Ancestors, through their unremitting Endeavours, to support and maintain that Stem, of which she was herself an immediate Branch.

So late even as this Reign, the whole Kingdom of *Ireland*, was a desolate diffusive Scene of total Decay! covered with all the ghastly Symptoms of the Consumption of Centuries! But, at length, on the happy Accession of his late Majesty of glorious Memory, the blissful Morning of Peace and Concord began its auspicious Dawn! Yet, as Time, publick Spirit, Patriotism, (in its highest Conception,) and unwearied

Diligence, were all collectively essential to the giving Life, Vigour, and Activity, to national Industry and Improvement, so very long in a melancholy State of Languor and Oppression : Not before the present truly glorious Reign, did *Hibernia* tune her old Harp, now newly strung to universal Harmony and Elegance, and rear her awful Head from the stupid dismal Dozes of Ages ; where comes the literal Application of my third Motto, RENASCIMUR.

*Hinc priscae redeunt Artes, felicibus inde
Ingeniis aperitur iter, despectaque Musæ
Col'a levant.*——

Having travelled through a tedious Night, thick-set with Horrors of various Hues ! and thus come to the End of a painful Journey ; give me Leave, kind Reader, to indulge awhile with admiring the beautiful Variety of Objects, which now surround me, to the serene Delight of the Mind, and refined Gratification of Sense ; before I attempt that Display of them, to which I have no Occasion of professing my Inequality.

In this Reign, and not before, our Linen Manufacture, in many Respects one of the most profitable Branches of our national Commerce, received all the Encouragement from Royal Bounty, and Parliamentary Sanction, that could be reasonably hoped for.

Persons of the highest Rank, Dignity, and Fortune, were appointed *Trustees* for the Propagation, Encouragement, and Diffusion, of this beneficial Trade, throughout the respective Provinces.

The *Linen-Hall* was erected in *Dublin*, under as just and nice Regulations, as any commercial House in *Europe*.

The North of *Ireland*, began to wear an Aspect intirely new ; and, from being (through Want of Industry, Business, and Tillage,) the almost exhausted Nursery of our *American* Plantations, soon became a
populous

populous Scene of Improvement, Traffic, Wealth, and Plenty; and is at this Day a well planted District, considerable for Numbers of well-affected, useful, and industrious Subjects.

Now arose, now shone forth, the ever Honourable DUBLIN SOCIETY; a Society equalled by none that we read of, under the *Hebrew Judges*, or *Kings of Judah*, among the *Assyrians*, *Medes*, *Persians* or *Macedonians*; the *Egyptians*, *Athenians*, or *Lacedemonians*; *Romans*, *Gauls*, or *Spaniards*; in short, by none under any Empire, Kingdom, or State, antient or modern. It is true, we read of Patriarchs, Philosophers, Warriors, Orators, and Poets; of a *Joshua*, a *Samson*, a *David*, a *Solomon*; of *Alexander the Great*, *Cyrus*, *Cesar*, *Pompey*, &c; of a *Jewish Sanhedrim*; the *Egyptian Magi*; an *Athenian Olygarchy*; the *Spartan Ephori*; a *Roman Senate*; modern Diets; Parliaments, Councils, Conventions, &c; But we no where, abstracted from our own Country, meet a Set of pious Patriots, from their *private Funds*, adorning their Country in general, in every Degree and Branch of Industry, and Improvement; and, inspired with Sentiments truly public and social, munificently rewarding their Countrymen, of whatsoever Denomination, without Favour or Distinction; for meliorating their proper Estates, or Farms; for excelling in any Production of Nature, or Art; for any Discovery, or Invention, useful to Mankind: A Set of *truly honourable*, and *generous* Personages, instructing their Countrymen with clear, yet philosophical Precepts, encouraging them by their Example, and rewarding them from their inexhaustible Bounty! *Such*, and *such unrivalled*, is the ILLUSTRIOUS DUBLIN SOCIETY! What Pity, the ample Distributions, and instructive Writings of this learned and munificent Body, are not regularly published, in *Latin*, *English*, and *French*, for the peculiar Honour of this Nation, the

Edification

Edification of Posterity, and as a bright Pattern of Imitation to all other civilized Countries !

Now likewise appeared the *Philharmonic Society*, that, (from a few Gentlemen, who used *occasionally* to meet, in Order to while away an Hour with a gentle Tune, and cheerful Glafs,) grew into an harmonious Body; not alone for the Improvement of the charming Art of Music, but for the *effectual Relief* also of successive Thousands, from Misery, Famine, and Confinement : *Concordiâ res parvæ crescunt*. ORPHEUS, we are told, built the Walls of *Thebes*, by the irresistible Powers of Harmony : Be this true or fabulous ; how many Iron Gates have we not seen open, to the persuasive Charities of this tuneful Society ! how many gloomy Cells vacated by their Charms ! This elegant Society, by moderate Loans, Interest-free, to the industrious Poor, prevents many such from getting into the Distress of Prisons, or following offensive Courses, and, by enabling them to obtain an honest Livelihood, rendereth them useful Members to the Community : So that, of this Society, it might have been justly said,

Omne tulit Punctum quæ miscuit utile dulci.

In this happy Reign, was Incorporated, under the protective Sanction of Royal Bounty, a Society truly Christian, for the pious Establishment of *Protestant CHARTER-SCHOOLS*, throughout the Kingdom : An Institution far more productive of national Morality, and Reformation, than excommunicative Discipline, or restrictive penal Statutes ; since Persuasion and Rewards have ever been, and must ever continue to be, more consistent with the meek and benevolent Temper of true Christianity, more effectual, Apostolic, and Catholic, than *Punishments, Persecution, or Sequestrations*.

In this Reign shines out a Christian Divine, who, in the inestimable, individual Doctor *Madden*, collects a whole Society of Patriots ; a venerable Man, not alone

alone the Guide of his particular Congregation, but a pure, also clear and lasting Light of Perfection, and noble Imitation, to his Country in general!

On *Madden*, kindred Angels smile!
Bright Mirrour to his native Isle!
To whom old Age shall say, and Youth,
With grateful and prophetic Truth,

Semper Honos, Nomenq; tuum, Landeq; manebunt.

St. *Patrick's* Hospital, for the Reception of Lunatics and Ideots, a lasting Monument of the Reverend Dean *Swift's* Charity, as are his various Writings, of his great Genius and Wit: *Mercer's* charitable Hospital in *Stephen-street*: The noble Hospital for the Relief of Poor Lying-in-women, of the Projection of our late excellent Countryman, Doctor *Bartholomew Mosse*; by which a great Number of Women and Children are preserved from miserable and untimely Ends: The Charitably Infirmary on the *Inns-Quay*: The New Hospital for Incurables, on *Lazer's-Hill*: St. *Nicholas's* Hospital, in *Francis-Street*: the *Meatb-Hospital*, in *Skinner's-Alley*: The *Lock Hospital* in *George's-Lane*, for hapless Women and Children, tainted with the Venereal Infection: And the Charitable Venereal Hospital, in *King-street, Oxmantown*; are all the humane and pious Growth of this transcendent Reign.

Those Hospitals are duly and regularly attended, by the most eminent Physicians, and skilful Surgeons, without Fee or Reward: So that, from this obvious Consideration, the frequent and large Collections in our Churches, for the comfortable Support, and Christian Education, of indigent Boys; the stated Distributions of our chief Magistrates, to the Helpless and Needy; and, in Truth, from the general Disposition of its worthy Inhabitants; we may, without any Risque of incurring the least Censure of Adulation, or Vanity, pronounce DUBLIN as charitable a Metropolis, as any in the known World. In
the

the beautiful new Garden, plann'd by Doctor *Mosse*, breathing in all the natural Fragrance of the Spring, adorned with all the Elegancies of Art, all the Splendor of Illumination, and inspired with the most soothing Charms of delightful Harmony; to behold Crowds of young Ladies, in the full Glow of Beauty, and Bloom of Youth, finely habited, and elegantly decorated in the Manufactures of our own Country, (and finished in the most exquisite Taste, by our own Artizans;) to behold them, I say converting their very Amusements and Recreations to the heavenly Purposes of relieving the Distressed, must, to every thinking *Irish* Spectator, afford a Prospect of the utmost rational Joy!

As all Men, who, render their Country distinguished Honour, or singular Service, deserve, therefore, lasting Monuments of public grateful Acknowledgment to their Memories; it is hoped that, in this Respect, Doctor *Mosse* will not be forgotten, by those who are evidently fond of encouraging and rewarding public Zeal:

Eternal Joys to *Mosse* kind Heaven give,
By whom, on Earth, so many Thousands live!

THE HIBERNIAN SOCIETY, it is justly hoped, will put the finishing Hand of Perfection to national Improvement, by wise and extensive Plans for academical Education; at the same Time that it must be avowed, we have, in many Parts of the Kingdom, very worthy pains-taking Clergymen, thoroughly equal both to a virtuous and classic Instruction of Youth.

I have lately met some young Gentlemen of very tender Years, under the separate Tuition of the Reverend Messieurs *Mac Mullen*, *Benson* and *Gast*; who, by a surprizing Proficiency in Literature, reflect deserved Honour, as well on the Capacity, as Assiduity, of those Gentlemen: And I question not that many promising

promising Youths, of equal Hopes, are in a proper Train of Education at other Schools in the City and Country. Yet, if a liberal Education can be rendered provincial, and, by being plann'd on a less expensive Foundation, than the present Methods can admit of, more attainable; such will be doing the Publick a very valuable and desirable Service: To which End, I purpose, in due Season, offering the Honourable Society, my humble Thoughts on the important Subject.

The Great and the Wealthy, scarce feel any Expence they may be put to, in the Education of their Families: But the chief End of my Scheme is the Procurement of such an Establishment, as may admit middling People, and those even in lower Circumstances, to have their Sons so educated, according to the Force or Bent of their respective Talents, as may render them an Honour and Advantage to their Country, their Parents, and themselves.

The lately-revived Society of the *Friendly Brothers of Saint PATRICK*, forebodes many and signal Advantages to Ireland. This honourable Society, hath already given a lasting Specimen of its Regards to unshaken Merit, in the fine Statue erected to the deserved Honour of Lord *Blakeney*; so exquisitely executed by the celebrated Artift, Mr. *Van-Nost*, that *vivos ducit de Marmore vultus*, may be justly affirmed of that Gentleman.

The *Marine Society*, of recent Institution also, disposeth many poor young Men into a Condition of acquiring an honest, and praise-worthy Livelihood, and of becoming useful Members of the Community; by serving on Board of his Majesty's Fleets, in War-time, and serving our Merchants in Times of Peace; and, in this double Capacity, of contributing to the general Welfare of their Mother Country, to which they may otherwise prove a Burden.

The important Art of Printing, with the frequent Publication of instructive and entertaining Books,

hath, in this Reign, been advanced to Heights, to many previous Ages unknown, for which among others, we stand, in a great Degree, indebted to the laudable Industry and Labour of Messieurs *Grierſon*, *Ewing*, *Smith*, *Exshaw*, and *Wilson*, and alſo Mr. *Faulkner*, who, to do him but bare Juſtice, hath been at all Times, and on all Occaſions, ready and willing to convey ſound Inſtruction, and refined Entertainment to his Country, and hath been always proud, whenever it offered within his Sphere, of doing *Ireland* juſt Honour, and vindicating her from undeſerved Cenſure, or ſtupid Raillery.

Mr. *Faulkner* publiſhed a noble Edition in Folio, of the *Universal Hiſtory*, at a Time when it was believed and boaſted in *England*, that no ſuch Work could be completed in *Ireland*. If Mr. *Faulkner* hath in this, or any other his generous, honeſt, and ſpirited Endeavours, ſuffered from the pyratrical Encroachments of others; ſuch muſt give real Concern to many, who wiſh well to their Country, and muſt be ſenſibly affected to ſee one, whoſe chief Study hath been the Promotion of its Honour and Advantage, deprived of the Rewards due to his Zeal and candid Industry.

The various Benefits ariſing from the happy Art of Printing, are too well known, too obvious to every Capacity, to require any particular Eulogy on this Day: Among the antient *Greeks* and *Romans*, the Advantages of Learning, and Refinements of Literature, were, from the very Neceſſity of Hand-writing, of a confined and limited Nature. On the Decline of the *Roman* Empire, what of Learning or Erudition ſurvived the waſteful Incurſions of the ignorant and barbarous *Northern* Hive, was treaſured up in Colleges, Convents and Seminaries; and from thoſe weighed out in ſcanty Scruples, to ſuch only as, after much and tedious Pains-taking, made Learning, in ſome Reſpect, the Profeſſion of their Lives.

The real Value of Learning and Knowledge, which I mean should be understood one and the same Thing, must appear in the direct Solution of the following obvious Queries.

What is it that raiseth Man from a State of savage and barbarous Ignorance? *Learning.*

To what are owing all the solid Virtues and delicate Refinements of Society? To *Learning.*

Whence arise religious Knowledge, Theology, Philosophy, Mathematics, Civil Institutions, Physic, History, Chronology, Policy, Oratory, the Art military, Navigation, Commerce, Agriculture, Architecture, Music, Painting, Poësie, and, in short, all the desirable Uses, all the Beauties, all the Charms of human Life? From *Learning.*

It is easy, then, to infer what valuable Members of Society those excellent Artists are, who, by their candid Industry, propagate, preserve and spread Learning through all Nations, through all Ranks and Orders of Mankind.

I have frequently visited some of the most celebrated Printing-Houses in *Paris*, justly deemed the best on the Continent; and it must of Course be with real Satisfaction, that I behold that important Art advanced to as high Perfection in the Capital of our native Country, by Mr. *S. Powell*, the late Mr. *Reilly*, and his *Relië*; Messrs. *Long*, *Nelson*, *Hoe*, and several others (with many young Gentlemen now beginning Life, with very promising Appearances in this Way, that will, it is hoped, meet with due Encouragement) who, for Strength of Impression, Delicacy of Expression, and well-chosen Variety of Type, are inferior to none, either in *Britain*, or on the Continent.

In Respect of the curious casting of Types, and thereby saving considerable Sums to the Kingdom, Messrs. *Malone* and *Perry*, Letter-Founders, merit particular Attention.

Some Years since, a Paper-Mill and Printing-House

were Improvements unheard of, unknown, unexpected, in the Province of *Munster*; but, at this Juncture are carried on with good Success at *Limerick*, by the Praise-worthy Industry of Mr. *Joseph Sexton*, well known for his excellent Paper-Works, and Mr. *Andrew Welsh*, who conducts the Printing Business in an extensive and approved Manner; as doth in *Corke* Mr. *Eugene Swiney*; at *Waterford* Mr. *Jeremiab Caldwell*; at *Galway* Mr. *Ulick Lynott*; in the *North* Mr. *Dickie* and others: So that, from the Generality of Printing and Paper-making, under national Encouragement, it is strongly to be hoped *Ireland* will recover its antient Character for Learning and the liberal Arts; as a Frequency of useful and entertaining Books, adapted to every Station and Capacity, must prove the natural Result thereof.

Mr. *Bindon*, Mr. *Hussey*, Mr. *Ennis*, and other Gentlemen, have advanced the beautiful Art of Portrait-painting to the highest Pitch of Perfection. I have seen some Pieces by those celebrated Professors, for just Drawing, masterly Colouring, curious Drapery, and exquisite Expression, superior to most, and equal to any I have observed in other Countries; nor are we deficient in Landscape-painting, Designing, and Perspective.

Our celebrated Statuary, Mr. *Van-Nest*, in Elegance of Attitude, noble Elevation, delicate Contour, and animated Finishing, seemeth, in Truth, to inherit the Chiffel of the Great *Girardin*.

Our surprizing Improvement in the captivating Art of Music, must be acknowledged by all who have Ears and Taste that attend at our public or private Concerts: Since, for Choice and Variety of Pieces, harmonious Distribution of the different Parts, and masterly Execution of the Whole, few Places are equal, none superior to the City of *Dublin*.

*Kildore-street, Sackville street, Dominick-street, Merri-
on-street,* (but a few Years since, all uncooth Wastes) the
Parliament-House, the College, the magnificent Hos-
pital for poor Lying-in Women, *Essex-Bridge, &c.* are
happy Monuments of our extraordinary Progress in
Architecture : Yet, as Deviations from some of the
essential, and many of the nicer Rules of that liberal
Art, appear ; I should humbly advise, that, in Case
of any future public Edifice, the Honourable the
DUBLIN SOCIETY, be *previously* consulted, for their
deliberate Choice of the proper Plans, and fit Per-
sons to execute them happily.

In Case of Building, and, in Truth, in many
others, we are (from our inherent Hospitality,) apt
to set *too high* a Value on Foreigners ; of whom some
have appeared to be nothing more than forward, pra-
tising, superficial Pretenders. It is not the being a Native
of this, or that Country, that giveth real Merit,
Judgment or Taste ; but a Brain well adapted to
Calculation, and nice Proportions ; profound Study ;
various Readings ; close Application, and strict Ob-
servation : In all which, I should not hesitate at pro-
nouncing our Countryman, Mr. *John Aberon*, if not
superior, at least *equal* to any foreign Architect that
ever appeared among us. It is truly Matter of Con-
cern to see some Noblemen and opulent Gentlemen
erect, at vast Expence, *Quarries above Ground* ; trans-
mitting thereby solid and lasting Proofs to Posterity,
of their Want of Taste, and Judgment, in the noble
Art of Building ; what may be easily obviated, by a
seasonable Communication of their Intentions to the
learned and benevolent SOCIETY, before-mentioned.

The Parliament-House seems to want some Capital
Finishing and Ornaments, to give it a beautiful Face
of Proportion, and extenuate the too massy Appea-
rance of its supporting Pillars : In which Case,
it had been justly allowed a noble and compleat Fa-
brick.

The Right Honourable the Lord Charlemont, whose Travels were not solely calculated for the Refinement of his particular Taste, is at this Time exhibiting real Models worthy of general Attention, and the special Imitation of the Great and Wealthy.

The two noble Walls erected by the Citizens of Dublin, in this Reign, commonly called the *North* and *South*; as they take in large Tracts from the Sea, render Navigation far safer than it formerly was, to the Port of *Dublin*, and serve at the same Time as grand and delightful Walks, (the new South Wall being above a Mile in Length,) are Instances as useful, as distinguished of modern Improvement.

Our publick Entertainments of various Kinds are, for the most Part, conducted with strict Propriety, and real Politeness; those especially of the Theatre, which should, by no Means, pass for Matter of slight or casual Consideration; seeing the *Romans*, the greatest of all People, esteemed the Theatre worthy the Attention of particular Laws, *Roscia Lex Theatralis*, &c. Mr. *Sheridan's* general Merit as a *Player*, stands confess'd; but as a *Manager*, that Gentleman's falling frequently under the heavy Displeasure of the Public, (whether from an haughty Distaste to his Profession, or indulged Arrogance of Temper,) with his violent Introduction of anti-dramatick Rope and Wire-dancing, Tumbling, and Fire-eating, to the visible Degradation of a liberal Stage, whereon nothing mean, shocking, or monstrous, should ever appear; he hath not succeeded so well: Then, his Scheme of uniting an Academy, for the sober regular Education of Youth, with a publick Theatre, seemed rather the feverish Delusion of a distempered Brain, and heated Imagination, than the cool deliberate Result of rational Judgment! from which fermented Source, also seem'd directly to flow his avowed Concern for the *long-last Art of Oratory*, among us; Had Mr. *Sheridan* attended to the De-

bates

bates of our high Court of Parliament ; been frequent in our different Churches, and at the Bars of our Courts of Judicature ; and had, in this Case, formed a comparative Judgment, from the Writings of *Demosthenes, Plato, Isocrates, Cicero, and Pliny the Younger* ; from the Rules and Precepts of *Aristotle, Longinus, Horace, Quintilian, Scaliger, Rapin, Porée* and *Rollin* ; he had been *then* convinced how little Occasion there was for his *Lamenting the Loss* of an Art in this Kingdom, which breathes there in full Maturity of all it's persuasive Charms. This his dogmatical Assertion of the *long-lost Art of Oratory*, his wild *Academical* Projects, with the foregoing theatrical Inconsistencies, too much subject that Gentleman to the Character given, by the *Roman* Satirist, of an assuming sharp-set *Greekling* :

*Gramaticus, Rhetor, Geometres, Pictor, Aliptes,
Augur, Scenobates, Medicus, Magus, omnia novit.*

Upon the Whole, I will readily grant Mr. *Sheridan* a *Roscius*, if the Name can soothe him ; a *Critic* ; nay, an *Orator* ; but I shall be bold to assert, that we have many, very many, in this Kingdom, of far greater Powers than that Gentleman, whereof some of his Orations, *so called*, are incontrovertible Testimonies.

This Kingdom hath of late Years exhibited as justly celebrated male and female Players, as any other ; evinced in the Characters of Messieurs *Quin, Ryan, Delane, Sheridan, Barry, Mossop, Dexter, Sparks*, Mrs. *Woffington*, the inimitable Mrs. *Fitz-Henry*, and several others, of either Sex.

Mr. *Barry's* Capacity, as a Manager, appeareth equal to his eminently-affecting Powers in Tragedy, (so generally known, and so unexceptionably confessed) from the magnificent Theatre, erected by that Gentleman, with amazing Expedition, in Grandeur, Convenience and Elegance, preferable to any in *London*, or *Paris* : From the obliging Decency the respective Performances thereof are conducted with,

with, and evidently from the surpassing theatrical Abilities of the Company, that with the most engaging Variety, entertains the Publick in *Crow-street Play-House*; I have sometimes seen, and have been as often delighted with Performances of the Gentlemen just mentioned, as with those of the admired Mr. *Garrick*, and the famous Messieurs *Dufresne*, *Goffin*, and *Quinault*; and if I may take Leave to declare my Opinion, am therein clear that Mr. *Barry*, in the exquisitely pathetick Strokes of deep Tragedy, touches the Soul with as much delicate Sensibility, and, in the irrefrainable Sallies of the more boisterous Passions, soars with as majestick Wings, as any one of them, I will not say higher. To behold Mr. *Barry*, sublimely struggling in a Storm of Adversity, with the sudden Shocks, and unexpected Blows of Fortune; then, (when all human Efforts must yield to inevitable Necessity,) sinking in the irretrievable Plunge of Sorrow, and Calamities, with that calm Resignation, ever attendant on true Heroism; must convince any judicious Spectator, of his being born a Tragedian. I must here declare, that what I have advanced on this Subject, neither ariseth from Prepossession on one Side, or Prejudice on the other; having no manner of Connection, nay, not even a personal Acquaintance with Mr. *Barry*; nor any Objection to Mr. *Sheridan*, but such as must naturally issue from my just Resentment against any Individual, of whatsoever Rank, Character, or Denomination, who should prove so ignorant, and yet so hardy as to declare *Elocution lost* in our native Country; an illiberal Censure, which, if true, had necessarily wrapped our High Court of Parliament, the whole Body of our Clergy, our University, Bench and Bar, in Shades that, I am certain, had been never dispell'd by the approach of Light, so dim and glimmering as that Gentleman's.—

Let us now take a Summary View of the Inhabitants of *Ireland*, in their respective Ranks: And, to begin with the Peers; are they not such Person-

ages,

ages, as, by their Munificence, Affability of Manners, Easiness of Comportment, Propriety of Appearance, and Generosity in Dealing, reflect true Honour on Nobility; and in Reality derive their superior Rank, as much from the Pre-eminence of their Virtues, as from the constitutional Dignity of their Titles?

The Encrease of our People, Wealth, Commerce, Industry, Arts, Inventions; the extraordinary additional Number, in this happy Reign, of our beautiful Seats, elegant Improvements, useful and ornamental Plantations, extensive Inclosures, excellent high Roads, (formerly almost impassable,) with the visible Reformation in national Harmony, and Allegiance; will best suggest an Idea of the Honourable the House of Commons of *Ireland*, composed of such candid Spirits, as, neither the Smiles or Frowns of superior Influence, popular Views, or private Connections, can bend from the various essential Duties due to their King, their Country, and themselves; constant in their Attendance; careful in their Protection; and zealous in their Promotion of publick Felicity; not more extensive in their noble Projects for this great Purpose, than expeditious in carrying those into Execution.

Who can, without pleasing Astonishment, behold Hundreds of our labouring Natives, under the most exact Discipline, effectually employed on the Junction of the *Shannon*, with the *Liffy*? a sublime Undertaking, worthy a *Sesostris*, a *Cyrus*, an *Alexander*, or a *Cæsar*; but such a one, however arduous, as we need not doubt seeing, in a few Years, perfected, under the protective Directions, and from the inexhaustible Bounty of our Parliament. The Prevention of *Scarcity*, with its meagre Train of dismal Consequences, is the highest Service that can be rendered the Community. *Ireland* hath often too sensibly felt the severe Effects of *Scarcity*; but this direful Evil, to the immortal Honour of our truly Patriotic Parliament, it is hoped, is, in a great Measure,

sure, obviated, if not totally removed, by the general Encouragement given, by an Act of the last Session, to the Farmer; through the Bounty on the Carriage of all Grain, from the remoter Parts of the Kingdom, to the Metropolis. The Bounty also on the Importation of *Irish* Coals to this City, with the spirited and vigorous Opposition given the *Over-growth* of sine-cure Pensions on this Establishment, in that memorable Session of Parliament, justly challenge, from all the Lovers of their Country, the most fervent, as well as lasting Acknowledgment of national Gratitude and Thanksgiving.

Our Constitution, partly of *Gothic*, partly of *Norman* Institution, (the first High Court of Parliament on the present Establishment, having been ordained in the Reign of *Henry* the first, Son of *William* the Conqueror) avoiding the turbulent Licentiousness of a *Democracy*, the factious domineering Temper of *Aristocracy*, and the variable oppressive Sway of *Arbitrary Monarchy*; but including, by an harmonious Assemblage the essential Virtues of those different Systems of Government; is unquestionably the *best digested* and *wisest* in the known World: Under which, the King and the Nobles, with the Commons, *unite*, to extend the Commerce, promote the Happiness, guard over the Safety, preserve the Lives, defend the Characters, support the Liberties, and protect the Property of the People. Bless'd Constitution! O! may it ever flourish! under whose mild and preservative Influence, a few only feel Restraint; except from the Commission of private Evil, or social Injury.

I have said a *Few only*; because there are some among us, who, on the Score of Religion, are secluded from permanent Property: And even Those, it is hoped, will, in Consideration of the invariable Tenor of their humble and pacific Conduct, from the Capitulation of *Limerick*, to this Day; and from their unanimous and chearful Obedience to our Civil Government, e're long obtain some Mitigation of
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their Affairs ; such the benevolent Temper and Disposition of the present incomparable Reign ! Some late excellent * Pamphlets, wherein these Gentlemen's political Principles are fully and clearly explained, shew of what signal Advantage it had been to the Numbers, Industry, Health, Wealth, and Beauty of this Kingdom, to indulge them a Property, even in our uncultivated Mountains, dreary Wastes, and noxious Marshes : Which Measure, should it appear in a true Light to our worthy Representatives, we may in a few Years more, hope to see *Ireland* one of the most beautiful, best-improved, best-conditioned Islands in the Universe. Our Bench is adorned with Honourable Personages, conspicuous for Learning, Integrity, Humanity, and Impartiality ; of whom, it may be boldly affirmed, and with the strictest Truth, that they are not Favourers of Persons. The present Lord Chief Justice of the *Kings-Bench*, the late Master of the Rolls, and Chancellor of the Exchequer, Natives of *Ireland*, formed a Triumvirate, whose Learning, Worth, and distinguished Abilities, had rendered them eminently respectable in the brightest *Æras*, either of the *Roman Commonwealth*, or *Empire*.

Our Attorney and Solicitor General, our Serjeants at Law, and King's Council, with many eminent Barristers, and a Set of learned eloquent young Gentlemen, all shining out together ; such as *Tully*, *Hortensius*, and *Pliny*, had with fond Tenderness cherished, and with pleasing Pride, avowed for their Pupils ; form as distinguished a Body of Advocates and Orators, as adorn any Courts of Judicature in *Europe*. I am happy in an Opportunity of declaring my deep-laid Obligations to those worthy Gentlemen, that can only expire with my latest Breath ; Gentlemen, whose Knowledge in their Profession Nothing surpasseth, but their Benevolence and Generosity in the Exertion thereof.

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* *Seasonable Thoughts*, &c. published by George Faulkner ; the *Case of the Roman Catholics*, and the *Principles of the Roman Catholics*, the two last published by P. Lord, in Cook-street, Dublin.

The Clergy of *Ireland*, for Sanctity of Life and Conversation; for Purity of Morals, and exemplary Demeanor, are a Priesthood truly venerable: Which deserved Character of our Clergy, may give us a just Idea of those Prelates, who protect them with their Vigilance, inform them by their Doctrine, guide them by their Discipline, and inspire them with their Example, to the laudable Practice of every social and Christian Virtue. Would grateful Numbers forgive me, if I should omit mentioning his Grace the LORD PRIMATE? that truly humane, charitable and benevolent Ornament of the Church! in whom are centered every Requisite that can adorn the Prelate and the fine Gentleman, both in public and private Life!

In the Diocese of *Dublin*, existeth a truly pious Society for the Relief and Support of the Widows and Children of the inferior Clergy thereof. It is, indeed, surprizing in a Kingdom, such (thank Heaven) as *Ireland* is, that the Example of this charitable Society, hath not been *universally* followed. It hath often affected me to the Quick, to have seen a learned Divine, after a tedious and painful Free-School Institution, and expensive University Education, struggling, upon a poor Pension or Salary of *forty* Pounds a Year, to maintain an honest Gentlewoman, Children, and Servants, (and really with some Decency of Hospitality) sedulously discharging, at the same Time, the different Duties of the pastoral Function; when a *foreign Fidler* shall run away with tripple that Sum, or more, for one Night's Performance. I would by no means be understood to derogate from the Merits of fine Performers in the different Parts of Musick, or endeavour to diminish their reasonable Perquisites: But, surely, such Men and such Things are not to be thought of, in Competition with those, who, by Teaching and Preaching, refine our Morals, instruct our Understandings, inform our Lives, and enlighten our Souls with the celestial Spirit of the Christian Faith; and thereby happily lead us, through this transient and precarious State, to eternal Tranquillity and Bliss,

Bliss. I am not a Preacher ; but thus far shall venture : As the Fear of the Lord is the Beginning of Wisdom, our generally following the heavenly Example of this venerable Society, must be a great Test as well of the one, as the other. If the Bishops, the temporal Lords, and great estated Men of each Diocese, would but graciously lead the Way, it is not unlikely they had been attended by Crowds of zealous Followers : And, in Fact, a *small Matter annually set apart*, from even the superfluous Outgoings of the Wealthy and Opulent, of different Ranks, would very happily answer the generous noble End of preserving, from an anxious State of particular Dependence, Numbers of virtuous, well-educated Gentlewomen, and their Children, from the various Miseries, which the untimely Death of a Father, and narrow Circumstances, but too frequently expose them to ; an End so every way worthy the natural Disposition, the benevolent Temper, the inherent Hospitality, and the essentially-charitable Character of *Ireland*.

Our *Protestant Brethren*, the *Dissenters*, by a prudent and pious Regulation of secreting one Pound a Year, each parochial Minister, for this religiously humane Purpose, have constantly a Fund sufficient to allow the Relict of each Clergyman twenty Pounds a Year, (which preserves her from the Miseries of Want and Dependence) and have, at some Periods, wherewith to set their Children up, in an honest and creditable Way of living. As we are emulously fond of adopting the Wisdom and Virtues of each Christian Sect and Society, it is fervently hoped we will also this tender and pious Scheme ; a Scheme so comprehensive of true Charity, and so productive of social and happy Effects ! How difficult is it for Minds, crowded with Cares, and beset with the pressing Calls of Family-preservation, to attend, with due Composure and Inclination, to the various indispensable Duties of the pastoral Office ? But how chearfully would those Reverend Gentlemen proceed in their divine Mission, when, by some visible Provision for the proper Objects
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of their present Cares and future Concern, they should, in a great Measure, be released from domestic Anxiety, from gloomy Apprehensions, and alarming Prospects into the temporal Futurity of those, for whom they must be necessarily affected with the most tender Feelings!

With prophetic Exultation of Heart do I foresee that this hallowed Scheme for the reasonable Support of the Widows and Children of the inferior Clergy, will effectually be carried into pious Execution throughout the Kingdom; and can, with equal Confidence, assure our worthy Countrymen in general, that the Completion thereof must derive to their own Wives, their Off-spring, and themselves, many additional Blessings from Heaven.

The most convincing and decisive Method of adjudging Causes, being by a comprehensive View and critical Examination of their Effects; of Streams, by a nice Scrutiny and Investigation of their Sources; hence may we, from the shining Characters, and extensive Abilities of our Divines and Barristers, frame a just Idea of the University of *Dublin*, which, for Compass and Extent of the Sciences, Variety of elegant Arts, sound Erudition, and polite Literature therein taught, in the most regular and perspicuous Methods, is equalled by few, excelled by none.

The Students are carefully instructed in the more refined Parts of classical Learning; oriental, antient, and modern Languages; Criticism, sacred and profane History, Oratory, Logick, Ethicks, and Metaphysicks; in natural and experimental Philosophy; Anatomy, Botany and Chymistry; the Mathematicks, in Theory and Practice; Civil and Canon Laws; Theology, Controversy, and Ecclesiastical History: So that, with a good Capacity, and regular Application, one may depart this University, as compleatly and happily instituted for the honorary Professions of Life, as may be reasonably expected from any Nursery of Learning extant. The obtaining a Fellowship in this University, is a demonstrative Test of comprehensive

prehensive native Talents, thorough intellectual Cultivation, deep and various learned Acquirements.

The *Newtonian* Philosophy; the excellent *Boyle's* experimental Philosophy, and Mr. *Locke's* Metaphysics, prevail much in the College of *Dublin*: Which, for Extent, Convenience, Magnificence, and a most sumptuous elegant Library, exceeds any one College in *Europe*. The beautiful Parks belonging to it, seem actually, on a serene Evening, the delightful Vale of *Tempe*, or enchanting Recesses of *Parnassus*, inhabited by all the Muses, all the Graces, with their charming Train.

We have, without Question, many eminent Physicians in *Dublin*, and other Parts of the Kingdom: But, it is truly much to be regretted, that the Gentlemen (the young Gentlemen especially) of the healing Faculty do not, for the Good and Government of Society, as well as for their own Reputation and Advantage, publish, on their Introduction to Practice, some learned Essays or Treaties, tho' never so short; that hereby the *Corn* may be easily distinguished from the *Tares*, and the Publick qualified to *discriminate* between Men of Learning and Merit in Profession, and those Legions of Quacks, Charlatans, and Pretenders; who, with no other Qualifications than a Stiffness of Carriage, frowzy affected Gravity of Appearance, and trite Bead-roll of technical Words, roam about, to the evident Annoyance, and frequently to the Destruction of many of his Majesty's liege Subjects. The Multiplicity of Writings already published on this Subject, cannot be objected against any *new Efforts* for the further Investigation or Acquirement of Knowledge: For this Reason, That, if all the Men who have ever existed, and do now exist, were *Literati* and *Virtuosi*, and placed in the Centre of an indefinite Plane; they may, each Individual, take a separate Path for Enquiry; who, the further he should proceed, the more Discoveries would he, undoubtedly, make: Such unfathomable Sources are the
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the animal, vegetative and material Worlds! The curious Ascent, from inert Matter, to the *vegetable Substance*; from *this*, to the *animated*; from the lowest Species of *animal* Life, to *human*; the imperceptible Gradations from, and Connections between the different Kinds, a *minori ad majus*, from the Mite in a Cheese (discernible only to the microscopic Eye,) to the Elephant; their wonderful Mechanism, mathematical Proportions; their generative Faculties, and exquisite Organization, so wisely adapted to the necessary Ends and well-being of each Class of Animals, in their proper and respective Spheres; must fill the contemplative Soul with sacred Amazement and Delight!

One peculiar Advantage attending those Studies is, that the more Light we obtain by our Researches into the Secrets of Nature, the nearer we approach to an exalted Idea of the infinite Wisdom and Goodness of the eternal omnipotent Creator of all Things.

We have in *Dublin* a great Number of excellent Surgeons; of honest, sober, and careful Druggists, and Apothecaries: And, to do the former Justice, they are not more knowing in the Theory, than charitable and humane in the Practice, of their salutary Art. Mr. *Cleghorn*, Professor of Anatomy in the College of *Dublin*, shews the highest Abilities in that Science, whereof his excellent Lectures are so many Demonstrations.

The Gentlemen of the Army, quartered among us, have, to their speculative and active Knowledge of the Arts military, added such manifest Degrees of Politeness in Behaviour, Regularity of Conduct, Affability of Manners, Punctuality in Dealing, and generous, but prudently-governed domestic Oeconomy; as render them just Objects of Esteem, and worthy Patterns of Imitation.

The Right Honourable and Honourable the Commissioners of his Majesty's Revenues in this Kingdom, are

are Personages of high Birth, Education, Rank and Fortune ; who act with strict Fidelity to the King, Justice to the Publick, and Lenity to the Individual, in the Conduct and Discharge of their important Office.

The Trade of *Ireland*, however, in former Times miserably restrained and limited, hath in this happy Reign received considerable Enlargements ; such as, the opening several Wooll Ports ; the Bounty on *Irish* Linens, now our staple Commodity, imported into *Great Britain* ; and the Immunity lately granted of importing thither Beef, Butter, Tallow, Candles, Pork, Hides, live Cattle, &c. a Privilege that, in its Consequences, must prove of signal Advantage to both Nations, to *this* especially, as we shall hereby be enabled, upon any occasional Exigency, to supply our protecting Friends, and proportionably stint the Hands of our Enemies, who, (by the Profusion of Wines and spirituous Liquors, annually exported from *France* to *Ireland*, in Exchange for our Beef, Butter, &c. to pass over the Gluts of Teas and Spirits, &c. smuggled thence by the *western* Runners) have constantly the Balance on their Side. Our Exports, with those already mentioned, consist in a few Cheeses, Salmon and Kelp ; But, as our Linens are, without Question, become the vital Spring of *Irish* Commerce ; it is Matter of great Concern and equal Surprize, that the other Provinces do not more *universally* and *effectually* follow the lucrative Example of the *North* ! since, it is evident, nothing but *equal Industry* can be wanting to render them *equally flourishing*. The Over-growth of Graziers and Stockmasters, is the strongest Indication that can be of national Waste and Decay, in respect of Inhabitants. What could a Foreigner, travelling among us, particularly in the *western* Counties, some Summers past, judge of our national Wisdom and Oeconomy ? Would he not start even at our Humanity, on seeing the best arable Grounds in the Kingdom, in immense Tracts

wantonly enjoyed by the Cattle of a few petulant Individuals; and at the same Juncture, our high Ways and Streets crowded with Shoals of mendicant Fellow-creatures! reduced, through Want of proper Sustainance, to the utmost Distress? Would not a *Frenchman*, for Example, give a Shrug extraordinary, at finding, in every little Inn, *Bordeaux* Claret and *Nantz* Brandy, though in all Likelihood, not a Morsel of *Irish* Bread?—It is not with national Commerce as with private Families.—*Large Out-goings* and *scanty Comings-in* enrich a Country, but ruin Individuals: Hence is this Kingdom certainly much indebted to the generous Labours and social Industry of Messrs. *Sleator*, and others of this City, and of Mr. *Sexton* of *Limerick*, who, by having advanced the Manufacture of that indispensable Article, Paper, to high Perfection, detain considerable Sums of Money within the Kingdom, and provide for the most helpless of our People. Mr. *Sexton*, indeed, a Gentleman of very public Spirit, and constantly fond of promoting useful Industry, hath expended a great Part of his Fortune, in compleating the Works by him erected near *Limerick*, the first of the Sort ever projected in that Part of *Ireland*; it is much to be wished, that Gentleman may succeed, to the Advancement of his private Affairs, in Reward of his particular Merit, and as an Encouragement to others to undertake Projects of national Utility. The Relict of the late ingenious Mr. *Delamain*, who carries on the Earthen-Ware Manufacture; so well planned, and so elegantly executed by her deceased Husband: Mr. *Dixon* and Company of *Leixlip*, whose Patterns in the printed Linen Way are so curious, various, and well-fancied: The *Dundalk* excellent Manufactures of Cambricks and Lawns: Those of Glass and Pictures: Type-makers and Founders; with Mr. *Anthony Green*, whose Salt and Lime-pans are likely to prove of considerable Utility: and those publick-spirited Gentlemen, Messrs. *Wyse* and *Smyth* of *Waterford*; all

all very justly merit national Encouragement, Countenance, and Rewards; as doth every Society or Individual, who, by fair Industry and the Prevention of Importation, keepeth Money at home, employeth our own Hands, and thereby contributes effectually to the general Felicity of our native Country.

It is much to be hoped, That, when the Spirit of Tillage shall become more general and active, our Farmers more attentive to the Growth of the best Kinds of Grain, and our Brewers more attentive to the Rules and Precepts for that Purpose, laid down by the Honourable the DUBLIN SOCIETY; we shall have little or no Occasion for that Inundation of *London Porter*; (an heavy, cloudy, intoxicating, ill-flavoured Liquor) that annually overflows this City and other Parts of the Kingdom; as, in the above Case, we may have a sufficient Plenty and Variety of Malt Liquors, our own native Produce, far better than any imported; and, in Case of a Redundancy of Grain, (a Matter not very likely to happen) may, with moderate Care, have Spirituous Liquors of far a more wholesome Nature, exquisite Taste, and delicate Flavour, than those imported at an extraordinary Expence; and but too often adulterated, in the first Concoction.

We have, in several Parts of this Kingdom, (in the Province of *Munster* especially) a recy, spirituous, fine-flavoured Cyder, very little, if at all, inferior to the best imported White Wines; and a moderate Plenty of grateful Honey-Liquors, which, with our prime Beef, Mutton, Pork, Veal, Lamb, Variety of Fowls, tame and wild; red and fallow Deer; Hares, Rabbits, Pidgeons, Pheasants, Grouse, and Partridge; wild Duck, Plover, Snipe, &c. Lake, River, Shell and Sea Fish, of all Kinds; the Produce of the Garden, (Horticulture having of late Years so vastly improved among us, that we now have many curious Plants, Fruits, and Flowers, not only not *known*, but never even *heard of*, in former Times) and *all* in such

Plenty and Perfection, as demonstrate *Ireland* happier than most other Countries, in regard of the Necessaries and even of the Delicacies of Life; to which may be added, the great Number of our beautiful Lakes, noble Rivers, pure Fountains, limpid Streams, and Health-restoring mineral Wells *. In this Country are bred valuable Horses, for the Draught, Road, and Chace; and for the Course, as high-formed ones, as in any Part of *Europe*; large horned Cattle, and Sheep in Abundance; Variety of staunch Hounds, and stout Hawks; and that noble and majestic Animal, the Wolf Grey-hound, to *Ireland* peculiar. I have already partly remarked on our Manufactures, and must further observe, That we have in *Dublin*, superfine, refine, and middling Cloathes, Serges, Druggets, Drabs, Ratteens, narrow Goods of all Sorts, Callimincoes, Everlastings, German-serges Stuffs, Camblets, Poplins, &c. all very well finished, and some to the utmost Nicety; as are also Velvets, plain and flowered; Hair and worsted Shags; Silks of different Kinds and Patterns; Silk Handkerchiefs and Ribbands.—It was with real Satisfaction that I have lately seen some Pieces of superfine Cloth, of Home-manufacture, equal to any imported; and some very beautiful and elegantly-fancied Pieces of Silk: Because, if this laudable Spirit of *excelling* should grow more popular, and meet with suitable Protection and Encouragement from our Nobility and Gentry; we shall, in a few Years, have scarce any Occasion of deriving those costly Commodities from other Countries, to the manifest Advantage of our own. Gold and Silver Lace and Fringe, fine Hats, military Articles, Sadlers Goods, Clocks, Watches, Cutlery-Wares, Fire-Arms, Coaches, Post-Chaises, Chariots, &c. are extremely well and neatly finished in *Dublin*: and it is certain our Artizans and Tradesmen in general, execute the Business of their respective

* To all the above Productions of *Ireland*, may be justly added, our inestimable Fisheries, and plentiful Mines, which, under due national Encouragement, would raise immense Treasures.

tive Trades and Occupations, with as much Strength, Fashion and Dispatch, are as moderate in their Prices, and are as decent, or rather more so, in their Manner of dealing, than those of most other Cities——It is, in Fact, severe, that our best Manufactures, in order to dispose reasonably of their Goods, are frequently constrained to pass them as the Produce of other Countries; it being often clear, that the Difference in the Value of our Manufactures and the best imported, is solely nominal: However, if once our Nobility and Gentry, the Ladies especially, should deign to pronounce it unfashionable to dress in foreign Cloaths, Silks, or Stuffs, a Declaration of this national Cast, enforced by the general and constant Practice of our Superiors, would, in a little Time, produce much Honour and Emolument to this Kingdom. Shop-keepers would certainly deserve extraordinary Custom, who should, with literal Truth, advertise superfine, refine, and middling *Irish* Cloathes, &c. equal to any imported. Linens, by Mr. Dixon and Company, in Pattern, Colouring, and Fineness, equal to any *Chintzes*, or *Gingams*; superfine *Dublin* Velvets and Silks, finely imagined and beautifully finished; Gold and Silver Lace and Fringe; embroidered Shapes of various Patterns, all in the highest Taste; with a large Assortment of *Dundalk* Cambricks and Lawns, &c. which will be certainly the Case, when once our Nobility and Gentry make the Use of *Irish* Manufactures, the Touchstone of Fashion; which effected, must proportionably raise the Value of our Lands, encrease our Commerce and Industry; keep Money in the Kingdom, and provide happily for Numbers of our People, now distressed through Want of Employment. Our Merchants, although carefully attentive to their Affairs, are far more open, chearful and generous, than those who inhabit Nations of more extensive Commerce, and greater Opulence; and, in general, as little incident to Bankruptcy or Failures.

It must afford real Satisfaction to consider the universal and visible Reformation in the Lives and Morals even of our common People, clearly evinced in this, that (thank Heaven) fewer legal Punishments succeed an entire Circuit, in our happy Days, than did a single Assize in former Reigns: And, without Question, this Reformation must still rise higher, in Proportion to the Lenity of our worthy Legislature, and wise Indulgence of our landed Men, who must certainly find it more conducive to the Welfare of the State, and to their own Strength, Honour, and Interest, to have their Estates farmed and inhabited by a great Number of honest, laborious, improving Families, than wasted by a few Purse-proud Bullock-Brokers, who rarely allow the wretched Herd of an hundred, as much Ground for his own and poor Families Support, as is equal to that of two Bullocks.

Suppose a Gentleman was to let two thousand Acres of arable Ground to Farm; were it not demonstrably more conducive to all the foregoing Motives, to dispose of those to twenty honest, industrious Families, at an hundred Acres each, than to any one Beau Grazier whatever? From the twenty Tenures, the Landlord may, in any national Shock, raise a considerable Number of effective Hands, and zealous Hearts, for the Service of the Crown, or Defence of his Country; and reap many signal Advantages to the public and private Concernments of Life, not possibly derivable from the anti-social Monopolizers and Forestallers of Farms; who ever fondly attribute their Growth to their own Sagacity and Cleverness, without any the least Gratitude or Obligation to the Land-owner. These Sentiments, it is hoped, will every Day gain more and more Consideration with our wise and beneficent Legislature, Nobility and Gentry.

Many intelligent Persons, of all Ranks, complain much of the Want of some Establishment in the Way of a national Bank, to secure popular Credit, and the Kingdom from the various alarming Shocks it is so
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frequently incident to, on Account of the Failure of particular Banks.

Having thus gone through almost all the Ranks, Orders, and Classes of the People of *Ireland*, in their separate Degrees; it remains that I attempt a Picture of the Nobility and Gentry thereof, in a closer and more collective View: Which, however defective it may prove, in respect of those masterly Strokes, and refined Colouring that can arise from Genius only, shall, at all Events, unexceptionably claim one essential Merit; namely, that of exact Similitude to the original Object of its Design.

The Nobility and Gentry of *Ireland*, are Loyalists and Patriots by Principle and Education: They are brave, without Arrogance; gay, without Levity; polite, without Affectation; charitable, without Ostentation; religious, without Formality; affable, without Meanness; generous, without View; and hospitable, without Reserve: In their Converse, easy; in their Dealings just; placable in their Resentments, in their Friendships steady:—They have neither the volatile Airyness of the *Frenchman*, the staid Gravity of the *Spaniard*; the suspicious Jealousy of the *Italian*; the forbidding Haughtiness of the *German*; the saturnine Gloominess of the *Flandrican*, nor the sordid Parsimony of the *Dutchman*: In short, they are neither whimsical, splenetic, sullen or capricious:—And, as for Cunning, Craft, or Dissimulation, these are such sorry Guests as never found Shelter in the generous Breast of an *Irish* Noble or Gentleman: so that, if we consider this Country, with regard to its military Fame, constitutional Wisdom, Learning, Arts, Improvements, and natural Advantages; and above all, the benevolent Temper, charitable and hospitable Disposition of its Inhabitants; it is true, we may find many of more popular Bustle and Eclat, more extensive Commerce, greater Opulence and Pomp; but none of more general, solid, and intrinsic Worth, than *Ireland*.

O! for the Pen of a *Thucydides*! a *Livy*! an *Addison*! a *Swift*! a *Bolingbroke*! or an *Orrery*! to hand down, in golden Characters, to latest Posterity, the various inimitable Blessings of this glorious, this inestimable Reign! a blissful Reign; in which have shone forth in our Country, such a splendid Number of venerable Prelates, learned Divines, impartial Judges, heroic Leaders, zealous Patriots, powerful Advocates, religious Magistrates, comprehensive Genius's, and refined Wits: The charitable Doctor *Boulter*, Archbishop of *Armagh*; Doctor *King*, Archbishop of *Dublin*; the unfeignedly pious Doctor *Synge*, (a Name and Family conspicuous through Ages, for the Production of worthy Prelates) Archbishop of *Tuam*; Doctor *Bolton*, Archbishop of *Cashel*; Doctor *Berkley*, Bishop of *Cloyne*; Doctor *Maul*, Bishop of *Meath*; Doctor *Forster*, Bishop of *Raphoe*; Dean *Swift*, Dean *Delany*, Dean *Parnel*, Doctor *Helsbam*; the Reverend and ingenious Mr. *Dunkin*; the late religious, learned and eloquent Doctor *Lawson*; and the Right Reverend Doctor *Leslie*, now Bishop of *Limerick*; who, to all the pastoral Virtues, adds those of the zealous and munificent Patriot; the ever-memorable Guardians of their Country in 1753; and those of this Day, who, duly attentive to the Safety, Honour and Dignity of our gracious Sovereign, distinguish themselves at the same Time in their noble Efforts, for the inviolate Preservation of national and constitutional Liberty, will, by those yet deep in the Womb of Time, be remembered with reverential Gratitude and Affection; so long as true Piety, unshaken Valour, steady Patriotism, profound Learning, general Worth, and pure Wit, shall continue of deserved and equal Value with the Sons of Men. That great Nobleman, the Earl of *Corke*, (but, indeed, more truly dignified by the Title of *Orrery*, a Title with which the accessory Idea of every publick and private Virtue, universal Learning, sublime Invention, and exquisite Wit, seemeth

seemeth habitually connected) still living; not more elevated by antient illustrious Birth, large Fortunes, and splendid Titles, than by the avowed Superiority of his Genius, admirable Talents, and instructive Acquirements; *Ireland*, with just Fondness, boasts her own. The Public was, a few Years since, given to hope for a parliamentary History of this Kingdom, by the honourable Sir *Richard Cox*, Baronet.—It is, in Truth, a Loss almost irreparable, that this learned Gentleman's Avocations do not gratify the Public, with the Completion of a Work, so honorary to this Kingdom. Sir *John Browne* of the *Neale*, Baronet, a Gentleman of great natural Endowments and liberal Qualifications, is at this Time, we are informed, employing his Leisure hours in composing a new philosophical System: Whereby he purposeth shewing how universal an Influence the solar Matter hath on all created material Beings, within the Comprehension of human Understanding; on the planetary and sublunary Worlds; on animal and vegetative Life, &c. No Question remaineth that every intellectual Production of that erudite Gentleman must prove highly instructive, curious and entertaining. The learned† Author of the *Dissertations*, before mentioned, is, I hear, a Native of the County of *Roscommon*; whose spirited Writings display the judicious and correct Historian, the sincere Patriot, and excellent Moralist.—The same County hath also given Birth to *Christopher Irwin*, Esq; a Gentleman likely to do the greatest Honour to this his native Country, by a Discovery of the proper Means for finding the Longitude at Sea; a Discovery long sought for, in vain, by some of the most learned of other Countries.

The Earls of *Egmont* and *Hillborough*, with the Honourable Mr. *Nugent*; what Orators? such as
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† C. O'C, Esq; to whom the Public also attribute those excellent Pamphlets, *Seasonable Thoughts*, &c. the *Case and Principles* of the *Roman Catholics*, and other Tracts of equal Merit.

Demosthenes and *Tully*, were they among the Living, had heard with secret Envy and reluctant Admiration !

In this short and vastly defective Enumeration of the bright and candid Spirits, which reflected extraordinary Lights on this glorious Reign, it were equally a Test of Ingratitude, as Want of Judgment in me, to pass over in Silence the late *Pierse Creagh* of *Dangan*, in the County of *Clare*, Esq; long honoured with his Friendship, and ever charmed with his most edifying and pleasing Converse ; *Multis ille Bonis flebilis occidit ! Quam mihi, nulli flebilior !* That Gentleman, from strict Integrity of Life, and constant Benevolence of Heart, adorned with general Knowledge, refined Erudition, great Strength of Judgment, uncommon Retention, exquisite Taste, and Quickness of Apprehension, most affable and pleasing Address, true Wit, with an elevated and beautiful Flow of Spirits, extraordinary Sweetness of Manners, and most instructive, as well as captivating Variety in Conversation, (which truly rendered him the Delight of every Company he ever sat in ; as his unerring, unceasing Principles of Honour and Honesty gained him the solid Esteem of all his Acquaintance) was certainly a most powerful and convincing Instance of those extraordinary Beauties, human Nature is, in its happiest Conception, capable of.

Did not the Idea of an extraordinary polite Hospitality, and habitual Love of Letters occur ; it were highly surprizing to consider what a Number of fine Genius's have, in this Age, appeared on a Scene so remote in Situation as the County of *Clare*, and so little incident to any Kind of popular Encouragement :— Could the Works of the Reverend *Mark Gripha* ; of the inimitable Major *John O Huoney* (who died, deeply regretted, in his *Catholick* Majesty's Service, wherein he lived equally honoured and esteemed—as is at this Day his surviving Brother, the Honourable *Daniel O Huoney*, Esq; Admiral of his *Catholick* Majesty's Navy, and Governor of *Ferrol*,) of the two tuneful

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Mac Curtins, Andrew and Hugh; of *Michael Cummin, Esq*; *Mr. Terence Mac Mabon*, and *Mr. James Clancy*, Natives of the County of *Clare*, be rendered intelligible in all their native Beauties, to the great *Mr. Pope*; he certainly had found some other Name, beside *Bæotia*, for a Kingdom, that, in the identical cotemporary Person of Doctor *Mac En Crow*, a Native also of the above County, hath produced as great a Genius, and as fine a Writer, at least as himself: A Truth I should by no Means take upon me to advance, if not authorized thereunto by the corresponding uncontrovertible Judgments of the most learned and judicious Doctor *Atterbury*, and the justly celebrated Abbé *Verrot*, who have pronounced that Gentleman's *Conubia Florum*, the best written Poem in any Language, from the Georgicks of *Virgil*, to our Days.

To the foregoing County of *Clare* bright List, may well be added, *Mr. Patrick Lysaght*, an excellent and harmonious *Latin Poet*; *David Bindon, Esq*; Representative in Parliament for the Borough of *Ennis*, a Gentleman of enlarged Capacity and well-known Abilities; who hath already published an accurate and curious Treatise on Commerce, and who, it is hoped, will hereafter produce Plans for the further Advancement of *Irish Trade*, and various Improvements, equal to his profound Knowledge and judicious Observations.—Doctor *Charles Lucas*, who, notwithstanding any political Errors he might have committed, must be confessed a Person of great natural Talents, and valuable extensive Acquirements. Doctor *John Mac Mabon*, of the Faculty of *Paris*, first Physician to the Royal military School therein; Abbe *Mac Donough*, Fellow of the House of *Sorbonne*, and Professor of Philosophy in the College *Du Plessis*; and many others, eminent in Divinity, Law, and Physic. The Reverend *Edward Murphy*, in this Reign, obliged the Public with the most curious, elegant, and accurate Translation of *Lucian*, extant.—Pity this Gentleman did not pursue classical and literary Matters, according to his Capacity and Taste!

I had the Pleasure of beholding, some Years ago, three of my cotemporary Countrymen at *Paris*; Doctors *Hickie*, *Frant*, and *Mac En-Crow*, in the foremost Ranks of that populous Republick of Letters—the *first*, in Theology, ecclesiastical History and Controversy; the *second*, in Theory and Practice of Medicine, universal Criticism and polite Literature; the *last*, in natural Philosophy and Poesy, who might have well deemed, and, without any Indulgence from poetic Licence, pronounced his Countrymen, *Studiis Genus acre Minervæ*—at a Time especially, when the three most celebrated and best frequented philosophical Chairs in that great University; namely, *Plessis*, *Harcourt*, and *La Marche*, were, on Account of distinguished Merit and surpassing Abilities, filled by his three worthy Countrymen, *Wogan*, *Russel* and *Pinnaghy*: With equal Truth hath he described *Irish-men*, *Genus acre Bello*, who had the Happiness of a personal Acquaintance with the great General *Dillon*, and his glorious Sons; with Generals *Roob*, Father and Son; with the Generals *Nugent*, *Lee*, *Cooke*, *OShaghnessy*, the Lords *Tyrconnel*, and *Clare*, (the last now Marshal *Thomond*,) Noblemen covered with Wounds and adorned with Laurels, acquired in the invincible Spirit of Religion and Allegiance; whose unshaken Breasts were to every Thing selfish impervious, and whose generous Souls were absolutely alien to every low Consideration; whose Valour and Address *Cæsar* had admired; whose Virtues *Cato* had esteemed! Could *Ireland*, then, the common Mother of those, and many, very many such Worthies, Wits and Heroes, prove a fit Subject for the Ridicule of that licentious Wit, Mr. *Farquhar*'s giddy Muse? Can *Ireland*, once the sacred Isle of the *Greeks*; the *Insula Sanctorum* of the *Latins*; and at this Heaven-indulged Period, the fruitful Mother and copious Nurse of such a Court of Parliament, such a Priesthood, such a Bench and Bar, with so many Praiseworthy and illustrious Societies; prove a proper Ob-

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ject of Sneer or Raillery to any shallow, insignificant Pretender to Wit or Humour?—Should it be asked in *Asia*, what Countryman General *Lally* was; in *America*, what Country General *Johnson* came from; in *France*, Marshal *Thomond*, Generals *Root* and *Dillon*; in *Germany*, the heroick Count *O'Donnell*, General *MacGuire*, and Chevalier *Caldwel*; in *Russia*, General *Browne*, &c. In *Normandy*, who it was, in *July* 1758, that spread Terror far and wide along their Coasts; demolished *Cherbourg*, the Work of Ages, with incredible Rapidity! and, after a short Expedition, returned from thence to *England*, with lasting Ensigns of Victory? Who it was that defended Fort *St. Philip*, while humanly tenable? All those genealogical Queries must be resolved in *Ireland*.

Should a Man have a Capacity for, and Inclination to the Character of a popular Writer, with an undeviating Eye to Heaven; the constant Promotion of publick, social and private Virtue, the Restriction and Suppression of Vice on every Stage, and under whatsoever Disguise, the Establishment of Unanimity, Peace, Concord, Love and Joy; with invariable Loyalty to our King; steady, zealous Regards to our Country; profound Submission to lawful Authority; proper Respect to our Superiors; and mutual Benevolence to each other; should prove the inalienable Objects of his Thoughts—the chief Subjects of his Writings; yet, may some offensive and dangerous Characters, unhappily exempt from the immediate Censure of the Laws, and not restrainable by the stated Methods of Justice, frequently require written Animadversion; such the habitual, exulting Debauchee, and professed Gamester, vulgarly Gambler; if not to cure those immediate Objects, (a Matter not to be hoped,) at least to guard the Innocent and Incautious from approaching the delusive Mass of Infection. It was lately affirmed, that a young Gentleman of Family and Fortune, had in one Night, lost to one of this wily, wretched Fraternity, 1800 l.

at the stupid Game of *Shake the Hat*; what, charitably and sociably applied in setting up 72 young, honest, laborious Couples, at 25 *l.* each, had rendered said young Gentleman the Esteem of the present, and the Imitation of future Ages, and 144 of his Fellow-creatures honestly happy.—It is real Matter of Astonishment how these ignorant, illiterate, impudent, profligate Fellows, whose very Excellence is Infamy, frequently contrive to wind themselves into the Favour and Intimacy of the Great; while many honest Gentlemen of fair Birth, liberal Education, and candid Principles, must languish in Obscurity! to avoid the proud Man's Contumely, and those too sensibly affecting Spurns, that patient, modest Merit is frequently exposed to, in the thoughtless Bustle of high Life. How many spotless Hearts, deep sunk in Afflictions and Distress, had that Sum of 1800 *l.* brought lasting Comfort and Consolation to?—shamefully squandered away in one Night, at a Game fitter to amuse *Laplanders* and *Hottentots*, than civilized, rational Men, on a foreign, extraparochial Vagabond, the promiscuous Get of some fortuitous Tinker, on a *Haverley-Gang* Gypsy?

It is truly strange, that those unhappy Men, (far more eligible in Respect of Virtue and Humanity, than the gambling Tribe) who rob with Scymeter and Pistol, should be the constant Objects of Ignominy and the Gallows; while the latter, who rob more effectually and universally, with cock'd and prick'd Cards, and loaded Dice, are reckoned fashionable, genteel, pretty Fellows, Bucks, &c. and notwithstanding their incorrigible Effronterie, gross Ignorance, and abandoned Profligacy; enabled to boast of Intimacies with Men, whose Ancestors had assuredly purged the Kingdom, of such noxious Miscreants; some of whom, it is true, are addicted to fighting; and no Wonder, when they can only lose wretched Lives, to which, cool, conscious Reflection, should it ever come, had reared Legions of frightful, hideous Ideas!

I shall esteem a few Hours happily disposed of, if, by this feint Effay, I may in any Respect contribute to the elevating our Devotion to Heaven, from a Sense of its returning and growing Indulgence, under this auspicious Reign, or confirming our Loyalty and Fidelity to the best of Kings; who, with true parental Tenderness, protects us in the *Halcyon* Lap of Peace, and uninterrupted Enjoyment of Plenty, exempt from Fears, and secure from Invasions, whilst, in almost all the Nations around, Thousands fall daily under the devouring Edge of Ambition's Sword!

Let us recur to the very Fountain-head of History, and impartially examine its brightest Periods, in the whole Circle thereof from the Conquests of *Ninus* and *Semiramis*, to this Day; we shall find none so remarkably shining as the present; wherein our glorious Monarch is at one and the same Time victorious by Sea and Land, all the World over; alarming and annoying his Enemies Coasts; locking up and destroying their Fleets; ruining their Commerce; conquering their Dominions; defeating their Armies, however superior in Numbers; and preserving, at the same Time, the most profound Peace, with all its Blessings, in his royal Dominions!—This is such a Scene of true and consummate Glory, as those, who came before us, have seen nothing equal to; and such as Posterity will see nothing superior to.

Let us then, my dear Countrymen, with zealous Hearts, and grateful Voice united, pray, That we may never want a *GEORGE* upon our Throne, nor a *PITT* at our Helm; whose consummate Wisdom, eminent Integrity, and matchless Abilities, have rendered our Power tremendous, our Arms terrible, our Councils steady, our Measures efficacious, our Administration uncorrupt, our Friendship courted, and our Enimty dreaded all the World over!

I shall conclude with the following Proposition to any one, who may arrogate to himself Praise or Wit, by ridiculing *Ireland*.

Si quid Novisti rectius istis—

Candidus imperti ; Si non, his utere mecum.

F I N I S.

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